

Crushing defeat for Chirac despite hostage release deals

Mitterrand sweeps to big election win

From Philip Jacobson and Susan MacDonald, Paris

French voters have handed President Mitterrand a second term in the Elysée Palace with a crushing victory in yesterday's run-off against M. Jacques Chirac.

The first computer projections, flashed on to the nation's television screens seconds after polling closed at 8pm local time, gave the incumbent Socialist President almost 54 per cent of the poll.

The margin of his victory, nearly as sweeping as the most encouraging of recent opinion polls suggested, is a devastating blow for M. Chirac, the outgoing Prime Minister, whose defeat is the worst of any candidate since 1958.

Barely five minutes after the results became known, a chas-

tened-looking M. Chirac formally conceded defeat.

"The French have decided to select Mitterrand to their highest office," he declared on television. "I bow to that choice, thanking everyone who has worked and voted for me. During my two years in office, I have tried to create a new respect for France."

M. Mitterrand's elated campaign manager, M. Pierre Bérégovoy, said immediately

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after the figures became known that the President had scored an historic victory, becoming the first man to be re-elected under France's Fifth Republic. "We give our thanks to all the millions who voted for him. Now we have to get down to work."

It is abundantly clear from the first figures that the last-minute surge on which the Chirac camp was banking so much after last week's dramas with the release of hostages in Lebanon and New Caledonia and the return of the Greenpeace saboteur to France, utterly failed to materialize.

The turn-out across France was exceptionally high, suggesting at first glance that many of those who voted for the extreme right-wing candidate, M. Jean-Marie Le Pen, in the first round switched their backing to M. Mitterrand this time.

At 71, M. Mitterrand has achieved a remarkable feat in sweeping aside the formidable campaign mounted by M. Chirac. His margin of victory far outstrips the 51.8 per cent which he won in the first round of voting in 1981, and represents a majority of some three million votes.

With his original mandate still in force until May 20, M. Mitterrand is effectively in a position to continue his presidency without a break. That would allow him to nominate a new Prime Minister should M. Chirac decline to step down before that date.

He also has the option of dissolving the National Assembly and holding new parliamentary elections in the hope of seeing the socialists gain a majority there. To judge by the blaring car horns, whistles and cheers which could be heard in the streets of Paris, the instant the result was known, the French are ready to go further down that road with him.

Earlier in Paris, M. Mitterrand and M. Chirac had performed the last joint ceremony of their two year cohabitation. Under a grey sky, they each laid a wreath on the tomb of the Unknown Soldier at the Arc de Triomphe to mark the anni-

versary of the allied victory in Europe.

Before a small crowd of onlookers, the two shook hands and exchanged small talk. Keen-eyed observers may have seen a single red rose, symbol of the French Socialist Party, fall from the President's wreath to lie at his feet.

Not far away, seven people were injured in a brief but violent clash at a gathering of several thousand assorted extreme right-wingers, monarchists and skinheads during a ceremony to celebrate Joan of Arc's official birthday.

Police said an unidentified group of masked men wielding iron bars had attacked marchers, leaving one with a fractured skull and others badly bruised. A dozen people associated with the militant Jewish Combat Organization were later being questioned.

The victims were members of the extreme right-wing *Oeuvre Française*, a secret, anti-semitic nationalist group founded in 1968.

As usual, M. Mitterrand cast his vote in the little town of Châteauneuf-Chinon in the Nièvre, flying to his adopted region of central France in the presidential helicopter. Local supporters greeted their former mayor and his wife, Danielle, with enthusiastic shouts of "We're going to win again" as he made for his favourite room at the Hôtel du Vieux Morvan and a large slice of its celebrated gâteau.

M. Chirac and his wife, Bernadette, also travelled home to vote at Sarrazin in the Corrèze region where they own a chateau. Asked by some supporters standing on his left to give them a smile, the conservative Prime Minister quipped: "I very rarely look left, but I'll make an exception for you this time."

Among the more prominent contenders eliminated in the first round two Sundays ago, M. Raymond Barre turned out on his home ground in Lyons, courteous and jovial as ever.

Voting in the 15th arrondissement in Paris, M. Jean-Marie Le Pen — just back from starting at a right-wing rally in Rome — took papers marked for M. Mitterrand and M. Chirac into the booth, where he remained for some time. "This is a secret vote," he told journalists when he emerged. "You'll never know which of the two forms I've still got on me."

Elsewhere in the country, the 38 electors of Bourcay in the Puy-de-Dôme region maintained the sensible village tradition of voting *en bloc* as soon as the booth opened "so we can enjoy the rest of the day". Half a world away, in troubled New Caledonia, there were a few incidents as mainly white residents cast their votes.



President Mitterrand and M. Chirac, together for the last time yesterday after their two years of power-sharing, during a ceremony commemorating Victory in Europe.

Union seeks to recruit Sealink in P&O battle

By John Spicer, Employment Affairs Correspondent

Leaders of the National Union of Seamen are trying to exploit differences between P&O and Sealink management in a bid to reopen talks which could lead to agreement in the 14-week-old ferry dispute.

The union made this clear yesterday as more services began to operate round the coast and strikers at Dover rejected Sealink's latest peace moves.

After a 45-minute meeting of the Dover port committee in the morning, Mr Roger Wilkins, deputy general secretary of the NUS, called on Sealink to embark on a commercial war with P&O.

He said: "If Sealink were to say to us that they were prepared to take on P&O European Ferries commercially, using the port of Dover and the Calais route in particular, we would have put together a deal with them on that basis."

Mr Wilkins said the union had left Sealink in no doubt that it wanted a more positive approach from the company during the five hours of talks at the offices of ACAS, the

advisory, arbitration and conciliation service, on Saturday.

The NUS sees Mr Sherwood, chairman of British Ferries, which owns Sealink, as its champion in the fight

the scheme at yesterday morning's meeting. Mr Sam McCuskie, the NUS leader, asked why the union would not accept the offer, said: "We are not in the business of splitting the membership".

The Dover port committee is meeting again at the TUC at 5pm today but Mr Charles Lennox-Conyngham, Sealink's chairman, made it clear that the meeting would be too late. He said if there was no answer to the company's offer by this morning's deadline, he would assume it had been rejected.

The union is hoping that the animosity and rivalry between Mr Sherwood and Sir Jeffrey will work in favour.

Mr Sherwood, whose company won a High Court injunction against the NUS leading to a fine of £150,000 and sequestration of the union's assets because of secondary action, is angry that his Dover ferries are being picketed while P&O vessels are sailing. He has persistently called on Sir Jeffrey to return to the negotiating table.

Continued on page 22, col 3

Gibraltar team flies in to see new witnesses

From Tony Dawe and Dominique Searle in Gibraltar and Ian Smith in Manchester

Four new witnesses to the shooting of three IRA terrorists by the SAS in Gibraltar have been traced, inquiries by *The Times* have found.

All are British tourists who were visiting the Rock at the time of the killings. They include a man who was reportedly so close to the shootings that he received a flesh wound from a ricocheting bullet.

Gibraltar police will fly to Britain, possibly this week, to interview the injured man and the other holidaymakers.

The police had planned to rely on local witnesses at next month's coroner's inquest. However, the controversy after the Thames Television programme, *Death On The Rock*, has forced them to widen their inquiries.

The programme included an interview with Mrs Carmen Proetta, whose flat overlooked the scene of the killings, who said that Mair-ead Farrell and Danny McCann were trying to surrender when they were shot.

Initial evidence from the new witnesses is understood to contradict Miss Proetta's statement. It will boost the confidence of ministers in Britain and Gibraltar who believe that the inquest will vindicate the SAS action.

Government sources suggested immediately after the deaths that the SAS officers were forced to shoot because of suspicious movements by the terrorists when they were challenged and fears that they were carrying a remote control device to detonate a car which they had parked in the colony 20 minutes earlier.

The deaths led to attacks on the Government by Spanish and Irish ministers who accused it of having a "shoot-to-kill" policy. Two television programmes on the killings have in turn led to attacks by the Government on the media for attempting "trial by television".

The most surprising element of information gathered by *The Times* is the existence of a witness who was wounded

in the incident. The Gibraltar authorities insisted after the shooting that there had been no casualties except for the three terrorists.

However, the new witness did not go to hospital immediately after the shootings. He returned to his holiday hotel believing that he had a minor scratch on his stomach. He went to a hospital only after the wound swelled up overnight.

The man, who comes from the North of England, attended the out-patients department of St Bernard's

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Hospital, Gibraltar, where doctors called the police who subsequently took a statement.

Both the hospital and the travel company he was with have refused to discuss the incident. Staff at the hotel confirmed the man's existence and said they heard other members of his party discussing the wound.

In the evening after the shooting, the holidaymaker recounted his experience to another British holiday couple, a publican and his wife who were sitting tea in the lounge of the hotel where they were staying.

The publican told *The Times* yesterday that the man had opened his shirt and showed them a circular mark the size of a 10p piece two inches above his navel.

"Until that moment, my wife and I had known nothing about that morning's tragedy," the publican said.

"Apparently the man, a well spoken, slimy-built family man, and his wife, a broadly-built and very jolly woman with glasses, were on their way to the town centre for morning tea when the trouble began."

"First thing they noticed were two youths on a motor-cycle stopped outside a garage intently studying a map, obviously lost or uncertain of their way."

Continued on page 22, col 7

Lewis's chain sold to managers for £70m

By Alison Eadie

Sears, the retailing conglomerate, has sold 10 provincial department stores trading under the Lewis's name to a management team for £70 million. Sears is not selling Selfridges, its flagship store in London and now its only remaining department store.

The Lewis's group began in Liverpool and extends north to Glasgow and south to Oxford. It made trading prof-

its last year of £3.7 million. The management team will be led by Mr Murray Gordon, who was the chairman of Combined English Stores until it was taken over by Next, the fashion retailer.

Sears is the largest footwear retailer in Britain, owning the Freeman Hardy Willis, Saxone and Dolcis chains.

Sears buyout, page 23

WIN £74,000

With no £8,000 weekly prize winner on Saturday, Portfolio Accumulator rises today to £74,000. Portfolio offers two chances — the daily prize or, if your number is higher than the daily total, the contents of the Accumulator fund.

INGENUITY

Today marks the start of the second week of INGENUITY, a daily game devised to challenge not only the contestants' general knowledge but also their powers of detection. Six sets of the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, together worth more than £13,000, await the winners.

The game is being played over 18 days, with 10 questions a day. Today's game: page 17.

INGENUITY

Rowntree plea

The Government will be asked in Parliament today to intervene to stop Nestlé's £2.1 billion bid for Rowntree, the confectioner.....Page 23

Power link

France's state electricity operation is planning an additional cross-Channel link in a bid to capture more of the British market.....Page 23

Stark's double

Ian Stark of Scotland won the Whitbread Trophy and became the first to finish both first and second at the Badminton horse trials.....Page 42

TELEVISION

The spaghetti of cables needed for data, voice and picture services in the office and home is being replaced by a single plug-in-the-wall connection, says a Special Report on communications. Pages 29-33

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Teachers plan strike action

By Sarah Thompson, Education Reporter

One of the largest teachers' unions is working hard to destroy the nation's last vestige of respect for teachers.

The NAS/UWT is balloting members between May 23 and June 9 on a call for a half-day stoppage in the week beginning June 20.

The action is in protest at the Government's 4.25 per cent pay offer, which the union says is only half the average white collar pay rise this year.

In the week targeted for action by the union's 124,000 members, GCSE examina-

tions will be drawing to a close and A-level exams will be starting.

Mr Fred Smithies, the NAS/UWT general secretary, said the strike would "not have any harmful impact on exams" but said he would not give details of plans until members had been consulted.

It is expected that members who are needed because of their particular subject, for examinations such as language orals, may be allowed to opt out of the strike, the first

Continued on page 22, col 1

Rock fall kills three in Cumbrian pothole

By David Cross

Three potholers were killed by a fall of rocks underground near Kirkby Lonsdale in Cumbria at the weekend.

Cumbria police said that the alarm had been raised early yesterday, when three of a group of four potholers had failed to return from an exploration of the Ease Gill system at Kirk Poil pothole on Saturday morning.

After combing the system throughout the night and finding a rope ladder still in position, the cave rescue service from Clapham found

three bodies in a location known as the Assembly Hall at 8am on Sunday.

The three people who died were a man aged 45, from North Yorkshire, a man aged 30 from West Yorkshire and a woman aged 27 from Cumbria. All three were married.

The alarm was raised by the fourth member of the team who returned to the surface on Saturday afternoon.

The cave rescue service, mountain rescue experts and police worked most of Sunday to locate the bodies.

Russell Harty, conscious again, sends thanks

By Robert Matthews

Russell Harty, the broadcaster, yesterday regained consciousness, five days after being admitted to hospital with hepatitis B and acute liver failure.

He is still seriously ill in St James's Hospital, Leeds. He has been on a life support system in an isolation ward since his admission.

At a press conference at the hospital yesterday it was said that Mr Harty "wanted to thank people for the many 'get-well' messages and flowers he had received. Professor Monty Losowsky, head of the hospital's department of medicine, said Mr Harty had probably contracted the virus while travelling abroad.

Hepatitis could be transmitted

when the skin was punctured by a mosquito or bed bug bite.

Professor Losowsky said most people treated at St James's for the virus had recently been abroad. Mr Harty has recently completed a television series, *Russell Harty's Grand Tour*, in which he travelled widely throughout Europe.

Professor Losowsky said he was optimistic whenever a patient regained consciousness but "that patient's problems would be by no means over at that stage. There are many more disasters that can happen."

"Communication remains difficult with Mr Harty. He still needs a good deal of peace and quiet, but he does want his gratitude to be known."

Mr Harty's improvement illustrates

the big advances in recent years in the treatment of patients suffering from severe forms of hepatitis B.

In the early 1970s one in five patients survived an attack of hepatitis severe enough to put them into a coma but the survival rate is now more than twice as good.

That was because of the better understanding doctors now have of the complications that can occur with hepatitis.

The liver damage suffered by patients with the disease is caused now by the virus, but by the body's own disease-fighting system, which tries to rid itself of the virus by destroying the affected parts of the organ.

As a result, young, fit people contracting the disease can suffer most.

Toxins are released by the affected liver which interfere with the chemical balance in the brain, leading to coma and respiratory failure. Damage to the kidneys can also be caused by the disease.

According to Professor Adrian Edleston, a leading expert on liver disease at Kings College Hospital, London, the careful monitoring of body fluids, early use of ventilators, and in some cases kidney dialysis machines have led to patients enjoying a much improved chance of recovery with the disease.

The ability of the liver to repair itself gave patients who have suffered badly from hepatitis excellent prospects for a full recovery in the long term.

Checkland wants a public figure to be BBC's ombudsman

By Richard Evans and Richard Ford

The BBC is considering the appointment of an independent ombudsman to handle complaints from aggrieved viewers and listeners.

At the same time the Prime Minister's press secretary, Mr Bernard Ingham, has clashed with the deputy leader of the Labour Party over journalistic ethics.

Mr Michael Checkland, the corporation's director general, has asked for a study into the options from Miss Patricia Hodgson, head of the corporation's policy and planning unit. He hopes to recommend the idea to BBC governors later this year.

About forty newspapers in the United States and Canada have ombudsmen who deal with a high volume of complaints and often insist on corrections, or find other outlets for annoyed readers to "let off steam" in the columns of the papers.

The nearest television equivalents are at CBS and ABC, which have vice-presidents of news practices, but they are part of the television channels' management teams. Mr Checkland is determined that any BBC ombudsman should be independent, and preferably a well-known public figure.

He or she would probably be appointed for two years at a time, and be supported by a small secretariat to help to investigate complaints.

One of the difficulties to be resolved is defining the precise remit of the proposed watchdog. The ombudsman would have to steer clear of interfering with the existing accountability of BBC management and governors to the public

A £650,000 television drama about John "Ogden" the pianist, could be banned by the Musicians' Union at a meeting on Wednesday. The union will decide whether to regard *Witnoss*, being made for the BBC's Screen Two, as a BBC production although it is being co-produced by an independent film company. Mr Kevin Christie, head of Ideal Communications Film and Television, has said he will scrap the project if the union does not accept a proposal to work under the cheaper agreement which applies to independent films.

and, externally, with the present role of the Broadcasting Complaints Commission and, in extreme circumstances, the law courts.

However, BBC chiefs believe there is a crucial gap within the existing framework involving the areas of right of reply and fairness, which are not dealt with satisfactorily, and where an ombudsman could play an important role. The job is unlikely to clash with the functions of the Broadcasting Standards Council, the Government's proposed television watchdog.

Mr Checkland's plans reflect the enthusiasm within the higher echelons of the BBC for ensuring the corporation is as accountable as possible — and seen as such. The BBC would pay for the ombudsman and his staff.

The ombudsman idea, floated recently in a Royal Television Society lecture delivered by Mr John Birt, the BBC's deputy director general, comes at a time when Britain's broadcasters are under ex-

treme pressure from the Government to be more "responsible".

There is also a growing move within the newspaper industry, and outside, for stricter controls on journalistic excesses of some tabloids.

In a rare on-the-record interview at the weekend, Mr Bernard Ingham, press secretary to the Prime Minister and a former journalist on *The Guardian*, said the standards of the media had declined "to the point of institutionalized hysteria".

Mr Ingham said: "There is nothing wrong with the British media that a renewed respect for facts, objectivity and fairness rather than the false gods of invention and malice would not cure".

Mr Roy Hattersley, deputy leader of the Labour party, accused Mr Ingham of acting like "an hysterical" in accusing others of hysteria and said the Government was using undemocratic methods to stifle free speech and free reporting.

He has written to Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, demanding to know why Mr Ingham is acting as if he were Home Secretary and a member of the Cabinet rather than an unelected civil servant.

Mr Hattersley is demanding to know whether the Home Secretary agrees with the views of the Prime Minister's press secretary on the issue of the media and broadcasting authorities.

Mr Ingham denied yesterday that the Government intended to give the proposed Broadcasting Standards Council greater powers to deal with abuses by the media.

De Savary's modest return to the water



Crime cut on target estates

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Crime has been greatly reduced on housing estates where it was rife, according to a report published by the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders.

Community support, with the local authority taking the initiative, and policing which is sensitive to local needs is responsible, according to a working group set up by the association's crime prevention advisory committee.

The report states that a

"proper level" of investment in buildings, services and facilities in rundown areas is essential if any impact on crime is to be made.

"Crime imposes an increasingly heavy burden on society", the report says. It calls for a preventive strategy in which the policing and management of local authority housing estates are planned in agreement with the wishes of residents.

Estates earmarked for ac-

tion included the Ocean estate in Tower Hamlets, east London. In 1983, policing in 12 areas on or near the estate was supplemented by 24-hour foot patrols and burglaries fell by 40 per cent.

The Pepys estate in Deptford, south-east London, reported a sharp drop in crime after the GLC called in Nacro's Safe Neighbourhoods Unit. Between 1984 and 1985 burglaries on the estate dropped by 54 per cent and auto-crime by 60 per cent.

Off-duty: Mr Peter De Savary, the yachtsman and entrepreneur who is spearheading Britain's £10 million challenge for the America's Cup in September this year in partnership with Blue Arrow, taking to a more modest craft yesterday to row around Loch Sunart, western Highlands. Behind is the Scottish castle he has bought as a retirement home.

Mr De Savary, aged 44, whose business interests span the leisure industry, oil exploration and property, recently bought a casino group for £90 million and Land's End for £6.2 million.

Now he is the owner of the 14-bedroom, Victorian-built

Glenborrowdale Castle on the shores of Loch Sunart, opposite the Isle of Mull.

Returning to the jetty after his row around the loch, he spoke of his love for boats, "large ones or small, I just don't mind".

He has just finished renovating the castle, which he bought last autumn. Last weekend he opened it as a hotel.

He said: "I definitely want to retire by the age of 50. I would really love to devote some time and energy to helping people who have been less fortunate than myself."

Photograph and report by Stephen Markeson

Summer flights threatened

By David Sagsted

A weekend logjam of flights to Spain, delaying thousands of passengers, brought fears that holidaymakers could face huge delays throughout the summer.

The Civil Aviation Authority said air traffic controllers in Barcelona "kept opening and shutting" Spanish air space on Saturday, causing a backlog of flights throughout Europe, including delays of up to 20 hours in Britain.

Although Spanish air traffic controllers insisted yesterday that they took the action in the interests of passenger safety because Spain's air space was becoming too congested, the real reason appeared to be a work-to-rule by the controllers at Barcelona and Palma over the Spanish government's failure to meet the terms of a work-and-conditions package agreed last year.

An estimated 10,000 people heading for Spain were delayed at Manchester, about a quarter of whom spent the night at the airport. There were delays of up to six hours at Gatwick. Passengers at Luton, Stansted and East Mid-

lands airports were also delayed for several hours, although flights out of Heathrow were unaffected.

The airline is confident that new European aviation rules allow such flights between regional airports by airlines not registered in either of the countries being served.

British Airways is putting it to the test with a formal application to the Civil Aviation Authority for permission to operate a daily service beginning in Manchester and

which came along the line to France and onwards.

Although the backlog was being whittled down yesterday, there were predictions of chaos during the peak holiday season if the unofficial action continued. A Barcelona air traffic controller said: "The problem is a lack of sufficient personnel and a lack of proper equipment and facilities".

The Civil Aviation Authority said last night: "Barcelona air traffic controllers had to put on restrictions

picking up passengers in Lyons for onward travel to Milan.

After 1992, an airline will theoretically be able to fly wherever it wants within the community. Until now this has been prevented by European governments anxious to protect their own airlines.

Under new regulations approved by ministers last year however, it was agreed that any airline which could show it was developing a new service within the community which would help business should be allowed to operate.

The Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators has called for the development of an international airport in the Bristol area to alleviate what it calls a "crisis of capacity" afflicting London's airports.

It says in a contribution to the Commons transport committee's inquiry into air safety that Heathrow and Gatwick can be expanded no further and that full development of Stansted will only partially relieve the congestion.

Expedition to try again in Everest climb

The tri-Service expedition team trying to become the first Britons to conquer the north face of Everest will make a second attempt for the summit this week.

Staff Sergeant Merv Middleton, of the Army, and Lieutenant Steve Bell, of the Royal Marines, will set out from Camp Six today.

Tomorrow, the second party, Commander Richard Pelly, of the Navy, and Captain Nigel Williams, Captain Johnny Garrett and Corporal Luke Hughes, all from the Army, will make its attempt.

Last week's attempt was called off when the four-man team had to turn back because of lack of oxygen.

Major John Fitzgerald said at the expedition's headquarters at Aldershot yesterday: "They are confident they will succeed this time".

Offices get warning on legionnaires' disease

By Robert Matthews, Technology Correspondent

Scientists investigating the outbreak of legionnaires' disease at the BBC's headquarters in Portland Place, London, yesterday issued an urgent warning of the dangers of infection from office cooling systems being switched on for the summer.

The team, led by the City of Westminster's environmental health department, said that engineers should ensure air conditioning systems of buildings are cleaned before being operated.

The bacterium responsible for the disease, which causes a type of pneumonia which can be fatal, is known to grow in poorly maintained cooling circuits of ventilation systems.

More than a dozen buildings in the vicinity of Portland Place have been checked and disinfected. Scientists say

there is no further risk.

The outbreak at the BBC has led to 64 suspected cases, 36 of whom are in hospital. Nine patients are said to be seriously ill.

The team expects to see more cases emerge, as the disease has a 10-day incubation period. District medical officers throughout the country will today receive an appeal from Dr Ronald Oliver, deputy chief medical officer of the Department of Health, to help to identify other victims who were near Portland Place from mid April to May 2.

"Any patients in hospital, or admitted over the next two weeks, with pneumonia should be investigated as to whether they could be associated with this outbreak of legionnaires' disease".

War memorials in danger

By David Cross

Memorials to those killed in the First World War are often badly damaged or almost inaccessible, according to Mr Derek Boorman, who has investigated a thousand memorials in the past year.

Mr Boorman said vandalism and neglect had caused many to be destroyed. Many others were covered in graffiti and brass nameplates had been stolen.

"There is even a case in the West Country of a memorial hall being in danger of demolition because of the need to the local council, finding the maintenance costs too high", he said.

One of the worst cases was at Blackley, Greater Manchester, where four bronze

statues holding badges representing the branches of the armed services had been removed, along with a bronze wreath. Much of the stone-work was covered in graffiti.

Mr Boorman will publish details of about 300 memorials which are most at risk, under the title, *At the Going Down of the Sun*, to mark the seventh anniversary of the signing of the armistice on November 11.

He said one of the biggest problems, which was highlighted in recent letters to *The Times*, was the absence of a national inventory of war memorials.

Virtually every town and village had at least one memorial to those who died

during the two world wars. However, they were in the care of many different authorities.

Mr Alan Borg, director of the Imperial War Museum, said: "I have long believed that a national data base should be established."

"The task is finite, manageable and comparatively inexpensive. Unfortunately, however, it is no one's responsibility and hence is virtually impossible to fund from established sources."

Proceeds from the sale of Mr Boorman's book will aid the British Legion to foster greater interest in the memorials and to raise funds to maintain and protect them.

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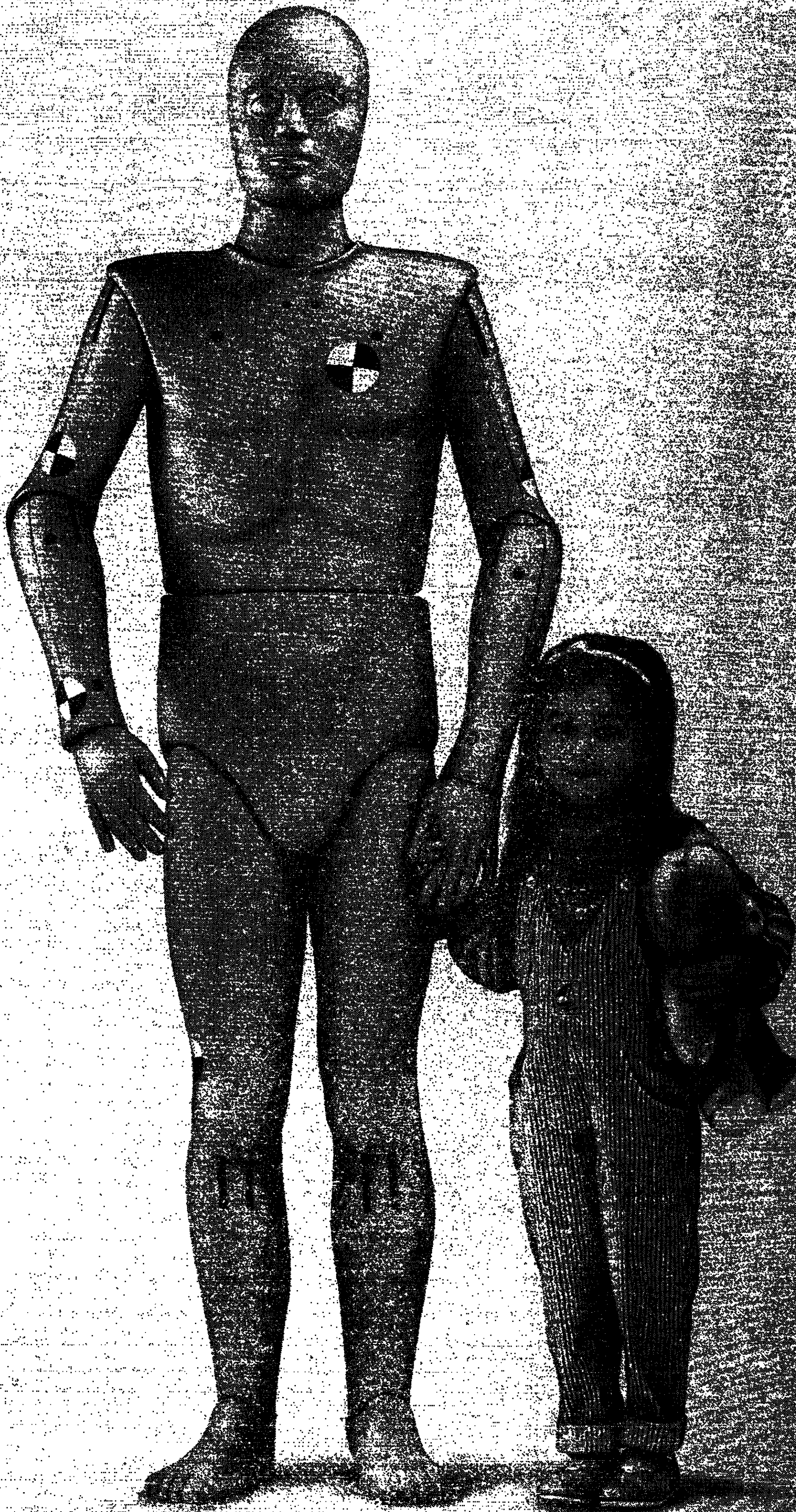
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AN INVITATION TO HELP US HELP GREAT ORMOND STREET HOSPITAL.

On Thursday 12th of May, many Volvo dealers around the country will be making a very special effort to raise £50,000 for the famous Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital.

They will be holding an action-packed charity evening, and we very much hope you will be able to join them - because Volvo

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VOLVO

Patched up repairs and out of date buildings create debts Hospitals will sell off surplus property

By Staff Reporters

Senior National Health Service managers have been ordered to explain why they are failing to save an estimated £500 million a year from the proper handling of big stocks of real estate. They face rigorous examination today by the Commons public accounts committee over a National Audit Office report showing that health authorities are holding on to valuable surplus property and incurring expensive bills for inadequate maintenance.

A fifth of the districts in England have confirmed that almost half their land holdings are surplus to requirements. In one Lancashire health region, the surplus is as high as 78 per cent. In south-east Staffordshire, it is 60 per cent.

The Times has looked at three examples of the kind of estate management which has upset the office, and at one which is setting a high standard.

Repeated makeshift patching of a flat roof at Birmingham's Queen Elizabeth Hospital, run by the Central Birmingham Health Authority, has led to an extra bill of £1 million to repair damage caused by water leakage.

The additional bill was described as unnecessary in a National Audit Office report. However, the Central Birmingham Health Authority said that it was unavoidable as there was not sufficient funds in the early 1980s for a full replacement roof at the 50-year-old hospital. As a result, water seeped through the patched repairs, causing steel girders to expand and damage brickwork.

Mr David Edwards, general manager of the authority, said it faced the choice of spending money on maintenance or patient care. He said: "We are now picking up bills caused by earlier inadequate maintenance. We are faced with inadequate funding and old building stock. We have a maintenance backlog of £34 million, and need to spend £2 million a year, but we can only afford £1 million."

Private companies can take only a further 6 per cent of the health care market because those who need health care most are those least able to afford insurance, according to the Institute of Health Services Management.

A paper by Mr George Orres, published today, says it would be difficult to raise the 14 per cent private share of the health care market, including drug charges, beyond 20 per cent, even with big changes in managing and financing. Private health care, excluding drugs, makes up only 7 per cent of the total market.

Mr Orres, of the Institute of Actuaries, says that even with the introduction of health

management units, where independent groups buy care for registered patients, the growth in the private sector would fail to match the size of the market in some European countries.

He says: "The people who use the health service most are the elderly, the chronically sick and the young. These are the people least likely to afford private health insurance."

Potential Role of Private Health Insurance (Institute of Health Services Management, 75 Portland Place, London W1, free).

● A series of relay marches, organized by the TUC and covering more than 1,200 miles, will mark the fortieth anniversary of the National Health Service on July 5.

defects, such defects as were found last March "would not occur overnight".

The Mid Glamorgan District Health Authority has paid £220,000 to maintain and patrol Cefn Mably Hospital, near Cardiff, since its elderly patients were moved five years ago.

The health authority, as leaseholder, has fallen foul of an agreement which obliges it to maintain the buildings until the owners, Eagle Star Insurance, find a buyer.

The site, in remote country, became unsuitable as a hospital. Eagle Star says that partly because of difficult access it is taking a long time to find a buyer, who would probably want to obtain planning permission for residential use.

The company said: "It is a listed building and the health authority could not let it fall down. It has been costly for them, but they had no other option as leaseholders."

In the past six years, Sutton and Merton District Health Authority, Surrey, has become a case study for Department of Health and Social Security training in property handling.

Mr Richard Latimer, the authority's district manager, often using what he acknowledges as lateral thinking, has raised

£1.8 million by selling off one hospital in Wimbledon. The impending sale of two more, at Cheam and the Wandale Valley, will raise an estimated £8 million.

He says the result is better care for patients in new units, cheaper maintenance and hospital services and the acquisition of valuable capital to fund future projects.

Mr Latimer said: "After the success of the first sale, we realized that such schemes made extraordinarily good financial sense."

"We looked at Cheam Hospital, which had 80 or 90 geriatric patients in turn-of-the-century buildings on a nice site in the middle of a residential area. We were able to move the patients to two other new extensions to other hospitals for an outlay of £750,000."

"The value of the land was estimated to be worth between £4 million and £5 million a year ago, and will have appreciated since then."

"Our third project involved a grotty building with long-stay patients. To try to make it better was just money down the drain, so we decided to move the patients into better conditions and sell the site, which we shall do for a good price in about a year's time."

"The money will go a very long way to transferring a children's hospital in Carshalton to St Helier, where there is a large site. Money from the sale of the land in Carshalton will, of course, help on the next project, and so on."

Ironically, Sutton and Merton has become a victim of its own success. By the complicated formula used to assess annual financial needs for health authorities, the area has been given about £5 million less in the past few years because its resources are seen to be improving.

Mr Latimer said: "People are taking money away from us to give to the other authorities that are strapped for cash. Unfortunately, some of those receiving our money are not doing the things they ought to be doing and should be called upon to demonstrate that they are prepared to try what we have been doing for the past few years."



Ruling on refugee

The Court of Appeal will decide this week whether an illegal Sri Lankan immigrant who has taken refuge in a church should be forcibly removed and deported.

Viraj Mendis, aged 32, a Tamil separatist supporter (above), who has been in Britain for 15 years, has taken sanctuary in the vestry of the Church of the Ascension at Hulme, south Manchester, for more than 16 months.

He is appealing against a Home Office deportation or-

der which he claims will mean he could suffer persecution or physical danger.

Mr Timothy Renton, Minister of State at the Home Office, said yesterday the concept of sanctuary no longer existed in law.

"We reserve our right to secure the removal of any immigration offender who has taken refuge in a church or temple, although it has not been thought necessary to do so in any case to date", he said.

Beaton designs go under the hammer

A final consignment of designs from Sir Cecil Beaton's studio is to be sold at Christie's in June.

There are 230 lots of stage and costume designs, portraits and fabric designs, many featuring women with parasols and men in periwigs.

They belonged to Miss Eileen Huse, who died last year. She was his secretary when he died in 1980.

Christie's sold the contents of Beaton's home, Reddish House, near Salisbury, Wiltshire, in 1980 for more than £400,000. In 1984, under Miss Huse's instructions, it disposed of much of his studio.

The forthcoming sale includes many works Miss Huse retained for herself, as well as original artwork for his books.

SALE ROOM
by Sarah Jane Checkland
Art Market Correspondent

including his spoof, *My Royal Past*.

There will be his designs for *Lady Windermere's Fan*, from 1945, acclaimed by a critic at the time as "the most brilliant and striking that have been seen on the stage for years", and *School for Scandal*, 1949.

There will be his Oscar winning designs for *My Fair Lady*, replete with rows of women in huge picture hats, one surveying the track at Ascot through binoculars.

An arbiter of fashion for more than 40 years, Beaton's name is now synonymous with the Bright Young Things of the twenties. It remains to be seen whether, with its recent diet of Andy Warhol and Liberace, the art market retains its appetite for his



Detail from Beaton's Ascot scene in *My Fair Lady*

sugary style of draughtsmanship. Designs are estimated at between £200 and £1,000, with a total of about £120,000.

Miss Huse left the Cecil Beaton collection of royal photographs to the Victoria and Albert Museum.

In Geneva, corks were popping on Saturday night as Christie's launched a week's season in the city with a large sale of fine and rare wines. A total of Sw Fr455,995 (£175,383) lived well up to expectations although 22 per cent was unsold.

One bottle which will doubtless remain safely stoppered from some time yet is the jeroboam of 1921 Chateau Mouton-Rothschild which commanded the top price of Sw Fr17,600 (£6,770) exceeding the estimate by some £1,000. It is rare to find a wine of this age in a bottle this large (the jeroboam stands 44 cms high) and Christie's was careful to say that the condition of the wine could not be guaranteed.

The buyer, a private American collector, went on to push prices well over the estimate to gain most of the other top lots, nearly all claret. A case of 1959 Mouton-Rothschild went for Sw Fr7,150 (£2,750) and a magnum of Mouton 1945 for Sw Fr4,840 (£1,862). Even a case of Pomerol of recent vintage, Chateau Petrus 1982, fetched Sw Fr8,250 (£3,173).

The elections at home kept French bidders away in droves for Christie's Sunday sale of modern illustrated books, mostly in French, of which 37 per cent remained unsold. The slightly disappointing sum raised was Sw Fr510,400 (£196,308), and the bidding, being nearly all commissioned or by telephone, made for an uneventful sale.

A top price of Sw Fr71,500 (£27,500) was well within the estimate for *Un Pelerin de Angkor* by Pierre Loti with illustrations by Paul Jouve (Paris 1930). Here, as with all the top lots in this sale, the attraction was more the decorative binding than the pictures inside. Red morocco with tooled borders of gold and green filigree was surmounted by an important lacquered panel by Jean Dunand, showing an elephant in full ceremonial dress.

The second top price of Sw Fr44,000 (£16,923) went for a morocco bound volume by Paul Eluard, illustrated by Valentine Hugo, the multi-coloured abstract whorls on its cover again giving a strong flavour of Paris in the 1930s.

Farmers' plea resisted

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

The government is determined to resist claims from Welsh and Cumbrian sheep farmers who say they have not been adequately compensated for losses suffered as a result of restrictions imposed after the Chernobyl nuclear explosion more than two years ago.

In evidence to the Commons Agriculture Committee, published today, the Ministry of Agriculture sets out the steps it took in the aftermath of the disaster.

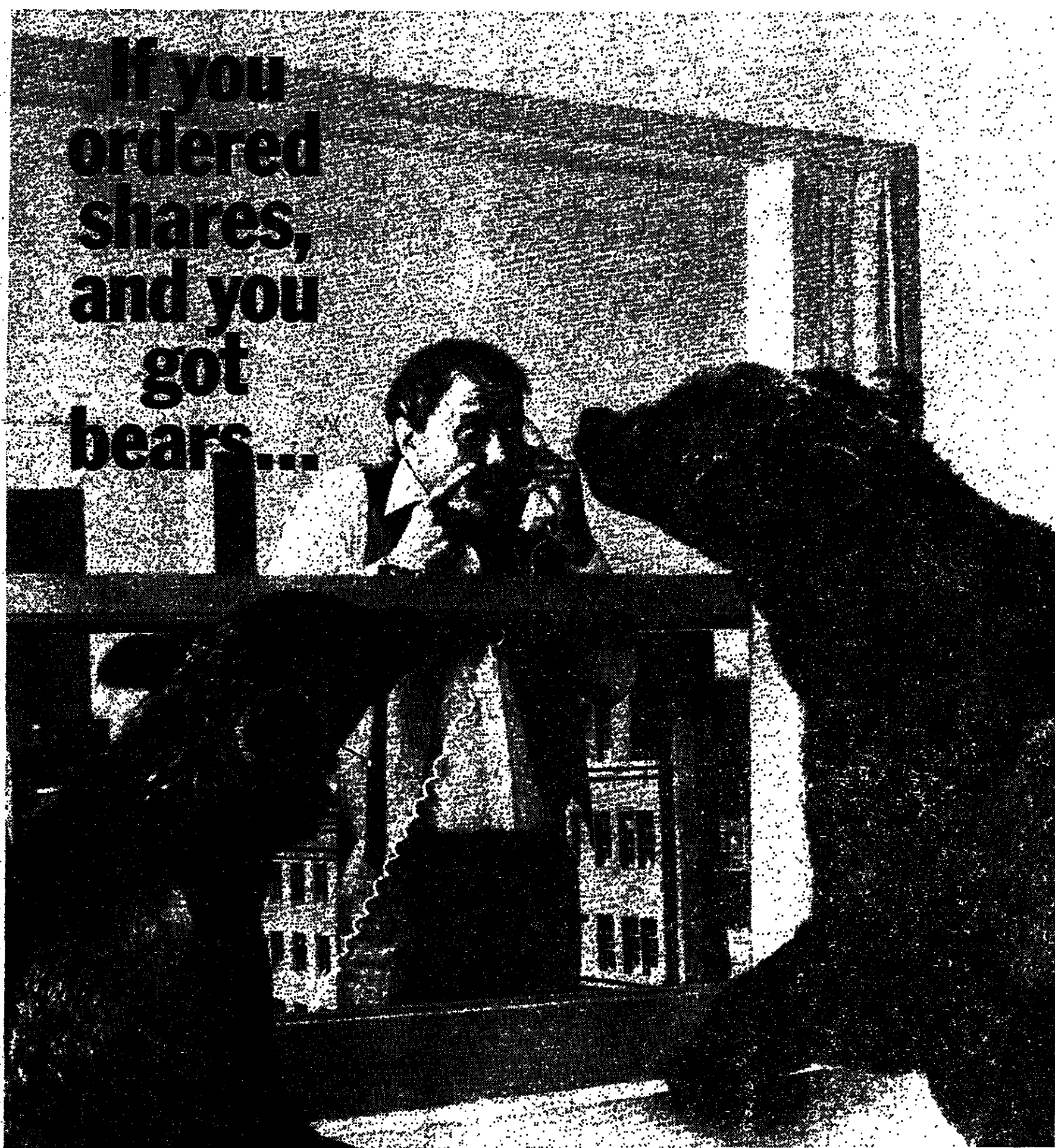
They included controls — some of which are still in force — on the movement and slaughter of sheep from contaminated pastures.

It rejects accusations of delay and incompetence from the County Landowners' Association, the National

Farmers' Union and environmental groups. It says more than £5 million has been paid and that extra costs and market losses resulting from continuing restrictions will be made up.

● The Transport and General Workers' Union has told the Ministry of Agriculture that many farming jobs are likely to be lost as a result of land being taken out of production to reduce food surpluses.

● Concern about health risks from food additives is one of suggestions to the greater danger of food poisoning, a nutritionist says in a book published this week. Dr Vernon Whelock, head of the Food Policy Research Unit at Bradford University, says that in 1986 more than 22,000 cases of bacterial food poisoning were notified.



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Universities face drive to ban research on defence

Lecturers and students at universities and colleges are to mount a campaign to try to halt military research at academic institutions.

The move comes after a pressure group disclosed that nuclear and space weapons projects were being carried out in campus laboratories.

The Campaign Against Military Research on Campus says the most controversial project is one funded by the Atomic Weapons Research Establishment at Aldermaston, Berkshire, into the "dynamics of the fissile material" — the explosive material in a nuclear weapon.

It is being carried out at Imperial College, London, by Professor Brian Spalding in the computational fluid dynamics unit. The project is designed to increase understanding of the Raleigh Taylor instability effect, which could lead to a greater control of nuclear explosions and their after effects.

Aldermaston's mathematical physics department, which has a key role in the theoretical design of nuclear weapons and the initiation of weapon concepts, is behind the project.

Imperial College has the largest number of British and American military research contracts of any London college, the campus campaign says. Ministry of Defence contracts include research into the theoretical dynamics of nuclear weapons, aircraft structures, explosions, marine corrosion protection and optics.

The campaign, based in London, says all three universities and eight polytechnics based in the capital are involved in military contracts which include projects on biological warfare, nuclear weapons and star wars technology.

Mr Rob Evans, of the campaign, said: "We aim to stop nuclear weapons research in London universities. We have targeted Imperial College, which is doing the most

military research. We hope to organize a boycott by academics at Imperial College of direct military research."

Miss Monica Hicks, of the Association of University Teachers, said: "We are totally opposed to nuclear weapons research at British universities and will be contacting members at Imperial College to remind them of our policy. We are concerned at the increasing number of Ministry of Defence-funded research projects at British universities."

Miss Vicky Phillips, president of the National Union of Students, said: "We fully support the campaign and will be working to stop research of this kind at universities."

The Ministry of Defence is funding 77 research contracts, worth £7.8 million, into chemical and biological warfare at 36 educational establishments.

Professor Spalding said: "There is nothing classified in our research. It is fundamental work on a common physical phenomenon, Raleigh Taylor instability. This is widespread and occurs when warm air rises from the earth. We are pleased to have the work funded by such capable scientists."

The research could have a number of beneficial applications, he said. It was related to controlled fusion reaction which was the ultimate solution to the world's energy problem.

Professor Jonathan Rosenhead, professor of operational research at the London School of Economics and founder member of the British Society for Social Responsibility in Science, said: "Increasing financial constraints on universities imposed by government is putting pressure on academics to get research funds from morally or politically dubious sources."

"The pressure to take military-related money is increasing. This is adversely affecting basic research priorities."

Leading article, page 15

Motorway repairs

Cyclists are urged to wear helmets

By Rodney Cowton, Transport Correspondent

Pressure is mounting for cyclists to wear safety helmets.

A recent article in the *British Medical Journal* claimed that three quarters of seriously injured cyclists suffered head injuries and last week, Mr Peter Bottomley, minister responsible for roads and traffic, called on cyclists to wear safety helmets and equipment to make them more visible.

Works until next Monday:

London and South-east

M1 London: contraflow, jns 4 and 5 (Edgware/Harrow). M1 Buckinghamshire: lane closures north of jn 14 (Newport Pagnell). M25 Hertfordshire: lane closures, jns 24 and 25 (Potters Bar/A10).

M11 Essex: contraflow, jns 6 and 7 (M25/Harlow). M11 London: southbound work, jns 5 and 4 (Loughton/A406).

M1 Essex: lane closures, jn 8 (Bishop's Stortford) and jn 10 (Duxford). M20 Kent: lane restrictions, jns 11 and 12 (Hythe/Cheriton).

M25 Surrey: lane closures 7pm until 6.30am, jns 11 and 13 (Chertsey/Staines). M40 Thames Valley: lane restrictions, jns 5 and 7 (Stokenchurch/Thame).

M4 Berkshire: lane restrictions westbound, jns 13 and 14 (Newbury/Hungerford).

Midlands

M5 Hereford/Worcester: contraflow, jns 5 and 6 (Droitwich/Worcester North).

Lane closures, jns 4 and 8 (Bromsgrove/M5). M6 West Midlands: southbound entry slip from Salford Circus closed.

North

M6 Cheshire: contraflow, jns 16 and 17 (Kiddsgrove/Sandbach). Slip and link road closures at jns 21a and 22 (M62/Newton).

M6 Lancashire: lane closures between jns 26 and 27 (M58/Standish): contraflow be-

tween jns 29 and 31 (near Preston). M61 Lancashire: northbound closed, jn 9 and M6. M6 Cambridge: contraflow northbound, jns 41 and 42.

M56 Greater Manchester: exit slips closed at jn 7 (Altrincham). M62 Greater Manchester: lane restrictions, jns 12 and 15.

M62 Lancashire: lane restrictions, jns 21 and 22 (Millarow/Ripponden). M62 West Yorkshire: contraflow, jns 25 and 26 (Brighouse/M606 Bradford).

M63 Greater Manchester: single line, jns 3 and 6. Restrictions on Barton Bridge. Construction of flyover at Portwood roundabout.

M65 Lancashire: construction work at jn 13 (A682). A1(M) South Yorkshire: contraflow and slip closures, A635 at Mear and A638 at Redhouse.

Wales and West

M4 Wiltshire: inside lane closed, jns 14 and 15. M4 Aves: 2 lanes closed westbound, jns 18 and 19 (A49/Bristol).

M4 Gwent: lane closures, jns 25 and 26 (Caerleon/Newport). M4 M4 Glamorgan: lane restrictions, jns 34 and 35 (Rhonda/Pen-coed).

M4 West Glamorgan: lane closures, jns 41 and 42 (Port Talbot/A483). Lane closures, jns 44 and 46.

M5 Gloucestershire: lane closures southbound, jns 9 and 12 (Tewkesbury/Gloucester). M5 Aves: contraflow south of jn 14 (Thornbury).

M5 Somerset: lane closures and restrictions, jn 24 (Bridgwater) and jn 27 (Tiverton).

Scotland

M8 Lothian: hard shoulder only eastbound at jn 3 (A899). Eastbound entry slip at jn 3 closed.

M9 Central: southbound lane closures, jns 11 and 7 (Bridge of Allan/Kincaidine Bridge). Inside lane closed northbound, jns 5 and 6.

M74 Strathclyde: contraflow at jn 4 (M73). M90 Fife: single line northbound carriageway at jn 1 (A90). Information compiled and supplied by AA Roadwatch.

Police foot inquiry bill

By Craig Seton

The Home Office has been criticized for refusing to contribute to the £620,000 cost of the police inquiry it ordered last year into the Birmingham public house bombings.

The Devon and Cornwall and West Midlands forces have had to share the cost.

The Association of Chief Police Officers, the Association of County Councils and the Association of Municipal Authorities want the Home Office to issue new guidelines on how the cost of future police

inquiries it instigates should be met.

The bombings inquiry was ordered by Mr Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary, last year in preparation for the appeal.

It was carried out by officers from Devon and Cornwall who travelled to Birmingham to investigate alleged new evidence.

The Home Office said it had not met the costs of previous, similar inquiries, but already contributed to general policing costs through grants.

Punch in festive mood



Mr Punch is 326 years old and fighting fit — as Smokey the Clown shows Russell Brant, aged four, from Egham, south London, at a festival held in Covent Garden yesterday to celebrate the puppet's birthday (Photograph: Bryn Colton).

WHITEHALL BRIEF by David Walker

The Treasury agrees to try opening a few more doors

Last week the Treasury, a department often regarded by the movement for greater freedom of information in Whitehall as the seat of black reaction, did something remarkably progressive.

It warmly endorsed recommendations from a group of MPs (which is unusual enough), recommendations which could, if followed through, make government much more open and accountable.

The proposals, from the Treasury and Civil Service committee and the public accounts committee, were that instead of the information spilling out of the Stationery Office in a sort of January orgy, with the publication of the Public Expenditure Plans, there should be a more ordered and relaxed presentation.

These presentations would culminate in the publication by each Whitehall department of an annual report on its doings, achievements and plans, timed to appear just before the Budget at the time of the estimates.

Pulling out the departmental chapters in Part II of the existing spending White Paper will not do; a new kind of report is envisaged.

These documents could be revolutionary in their effect. For the first time, in a single location, there would be a template on which departments' performances could be assessed; equally, each department would be given a common framework in which to describe and insist on its peculiarity. Either way, the accountability of government to the public would be greatly enhanced.

The Boards of Customs and Excise and Inland Revenue are already bound by statute to report annually.

The high point in the Ministry of Defence's publishing calendar is the Statement on the Defence Estimates, which usually appears in the summer. The Department of Education and Science's annual report is an invaluable source going back to the 1940s.

There is also an annual report on the National Health Service, instituted by Mr Norman Fowler. But it appears irregularly and is generally ignored.

The Home Office reports on the prison service; it publishes the annual report of the Chief Inspector of Constabulary; but there is no single emanation. The Welsh Office, the Department of Transport and the Department of Energy do not publish reports.

A vital question to be decided is how far the reports will be intended to enlighten and inform the public.

Professor Andrew Likierman, of the London Business School, a key adviser to the Treasury and Civil Service committee, says one group of consumers could and should be influential in determining what the departments put out in their new reports: the House of Commons committees on agriculture, education and science and so on.

Backbenchers are in a strong position to insist that the new reports are more than just vehicles for glossy pictures of ministers.



Professor Likierman, backing the backbencher

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France gives mandate to the centre

Mitterrand faces a crucial choice

By Philip Jacobson and Susan MacDonald, Paris

With M François Mitterrand back in the Elysée Palace for a second term, the political landscape of France is poised to change more radically than at any time since the coming of the Fifth Republic.

Already committed to the swift implementation of what he has been hailing on the campaign trail (with a characteristic lack of detail) as "a programme of national unity" for the country as it heads towards the challenge of 1992 and the single European market, M Mitterrand will be out to swiftly demonstrate how he proposes to achieve it in the face of an opposition majority in the National Assembly.

The key factor will be his choice of Prime Minister, which he is expected to choose within the next 24 hours. If the National Assembly rejects his first candidate, M Mitterrand warns he will dissolve it and ask the country to underwrite his own triumph by returning a Parliament with a working majority for the Socialist Party.

If the President decides to appoint a Prime Minister from within the Socialist ranks, two of the front-runners could be M Pierre Bérégovoy and M Michel Rocard.

M Mitterrand chose M Bérégovoy, aged 62, as his election campaign manager, where his seriousness added weight to his carefully worded criticisms of M Jacques Chirac.

His appointment was obviously a sign of the faith the President places in him. He was an able and well-liked Minister of Finance from 1984 to 1986, when the Socialists lost the general election to M Chirac's conservative coalition.

Unlike many other top politicians, even on the left, M Bérégovoy is not a graduate of any of the elite higher edu-

cation schools. The son of a Ukrainian immigrant, he left school at 15 with a metal worker's diploma and went from working as a lathe operator's apprentice to working in the railways and on to a job in Gaz de France, where he rose to be one of its directors until the Socialists came to power in 1981.

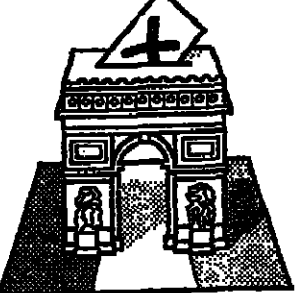
He had joined the Socialist Party in 1971 after M Mitterrand had moulded it into its modern form. M Mitterrand took him on as his chief of staff when he was elected President in 1981, and shortly afterwards M Bérégovoy was able to show his skill in financial management as Minister of Social Affairs.

He turned a chronic social security deficit into profit by combining economies with pragmatism, which meant that some of his solutions then, and as Finance Minister, related more to strict commonsense than to strict Socialism.

A rotund, solid-looking man with a twinkle in his eye, he is one of the few Socialist ministers the Right have difficulty in criticizing.

M Mitterrand owes a debt to M Rocard, who played the role of phoney Socialist presidential candidate before M Mitterrand officially declared himself.

A dark-haired, personable man who enjoys speaking his mind, M Rocard, aged 57, is a consistently popular figure in opinion polls. Although the public like him, he is, conversely, not seen as a political heavyweight. Throughout the Socialists' five years in power he tried to make his opinions felt as a separate current within the party. Although he does have a certain following, according to *Le Monde* his political tactics have resulted in a slow slide backwards. After graduating from the



M Jacques Chirac won 90.3 per cent of votes in New Caledonia in the second round of the French presidential election yesterday (AFP reports from Nouméa). His record score left President Mitterrand with 9.7 per cent of the vote in the French South Pacific territory, where the main Melanesian separatist group had called for a boycott of the election. There was a 61.7 per cent turn-out at the polls, despite scattered violence and several separatist roadblocks. The Prime Minister was expected to win in New Caledonia, where he has the support of the majority settler community.

top Ecole Nationale d'Administration, his early career was in financial and economic administration. He was first elected to the National Assembly in 1969 and worked within the Socialist Party national executive during the 1970s.

In 1981 he was appointed Minister of Planning and in 1983 Minister of Agriculture. He is perhaps best remembered for the stand he took in resigning as a minister in 1985 because of the Government's decision to bring in proportional representation.

But people have been waiting for his comeback. Since 1985 he has often been a thorn in the side of the Socialist Party as at national executive meetings he tried to swing the party further towards the centre. That job has now been

achieved by M Mitterrand.

It has never been clear whether the public confrontation between M Rocard and M Mitterrand hides a private understanding on a role that serves M Mitterrand's purpose.

Since the first round vote, the name of M Jean-Louis Bianco, the President's trusty chief of staff at the Elysée, has also been mentioned. While he is very much "an insider" to borrow M Jean-Marie Le Pen's campaign slogan — you never can tell when M Mitterrand is going to spring one of his little surprises. Remember M Laurent Fabius? He was plucked from obscurity to become the Socialist Prime Minister at the age of 37.

Even given the conservative majority in the National Assembly, a handful of defections from centre-right factions within the Union for French Democracy would enable any of these three possible prime ministers to form a government and get through the summer on a fairly restrained programme. After that, insiders suggest, the Government would bring an important bill before the Assembly for a vote of confidence which in all probability would be lost, leading to parliamentary elections.

The obvious snag here is the risk of another conservative majority, perhaps rather larger this time, being returned by an electorate that seemed to find the previous example of collaboration of left and right less distasteful than *la classe politique*. In those circumstances, M Mitterrand could well be tempted to settle for another spell of *cohabitation* with the Assembly as presently constituted.

M Chirac has sworn not to serve this President again, and although yesterday's defeat means he will be without a seat in the National Assembly

until he stands again, he should be able to keep in line the rest of the candidates in the ranks of the Rally for the Republic party.

What of M Raymond Barre as a possible candidate? His dignified and thoughtful campaigning before the first round in which he did perfectly respectably *vis-à-vis* M Chirac — has left him with considerable moral authority on the right. But M Barre is also the hammer of *cohabitation*, guardian of the ideological purity of the right; at 64, he is also getting on a bit, not quite the man, one suspects, to carry M Mitterrand's banner into post-1992 Europe (even though the President is fully seven years older).

And what about M Giscard d'Estaing? The former President has been playing a decidedly wily game during the campaign, at times showing apparent interest in the nebulous concept of a broad left-right alliance, at others trundling along the orthodox anti-Mitterrand line (even appearing alongside M Chirac, the man who knifed him so clinically in 1981, in the final RPR rally last Friday).

There are those who argue that M Mitterrand's most cherished objective has been to undermine the legacy of General de Gaulle, replacing it with his own vision of a France in which the real hold on power shifts permanently from the traditional right to a new point somewhere not too far left of centre.

In a country which recent voting patterns suggest is still predominantly conservative, that will take some pulling off, even for *Le Florentine*. What a good many French now fear is that they could be in for a rerun of the dismal days of "revolving door cabinets" that so drained and weakened the nation under the Fourth Republic.

Hawke's crowning glory



The Australian Prime Minister, Mr Bob Hawke, cheering his winning choice in the Queen Elizabeth Stakes at Canberra races yesterday while the Queen looks on impassively.

Plea for Royal support

From Christopher Morris, Canberra

Thousands of Aborigines, angered because their demands for land rights have so far been ignored in Australia's bicentenary year, were converging on Canberra's new Parliament House today to take their protest directly to the Queen.

The Aborigines and many white supporters have travelled from all over Australia intent on seizing the last opportunity to demonstrate their dissent before the Royal visit ends tomorrow.

All police leave has been cancelled and reinforcements called in to counter any violence in the federal capital, though the Aborigines insisted that their protest would be peaceful.

However, Aboriginal ac-

tivist leader Mr Michael Mansell has been banned by the Prime Minister, Mr Bob Hawke, from attending the official opening of the new parliament by the Queen. He has vowed to gatecrash the ceremony to deliver a petition and to complain about the treatment of Australia's 300,000 Aborigines.

Mr Mansell expressed his anger at the ban. "This is the sort of behaviour I would expect from the local drunken racist at the pub, not from the Prime Minister."

At the weekend the Roman Catholic auxiliary bishop of Canberra, the Most Rev Patrick Power, and the Anglican Bishop of Canberra, the Right Rev Owen Dowling, joined thousands of Christians who

formed a human chain around the parliament after carrying a cross to the new building. The cross was made from wooden rails discovered recently at the site of the Myall Creek massacre. They were part of a corral in which dozens of Aboriginal women and children were slaughtered in 1838.

"Today we carry their cross in shame," said Bishop Power. Most of the parliament building, which has taken seven years to complete at a cost of £500 million, is under ground on a hill overlooking the capital.

The Queen was given a sneak preview of the building. Earlier she attended an ecumenical service at St Paul's Church in Canberra, organized by the Royal Commonwealth Society.

Le Pen rallies the heirs of Mussolini in Rome

From Roger Boyes Rome

To thunderous applause from a crowd of Italian neo-fascists, M Jean-Marie Le Pen spiced French election day with a tub-thumping speech full of racist rhetoric and jibes at his two great rivals, President Mitterrand and the Prime Minister, M Jacques Chirac.

"Whoever wins the election today, the arbiter will have been Ayatollah

Khomeini," he told the rally in Rome, referring to last week's negotiated release of three French hostages in Lebanon. After some routinely rude remarks to journalists, the extreme right-wing leader of the National Front left the rally to fly to Paris and cast his vote. His advice to his supporters was "on no account to vote for Mitterrand, and indeed I'm sure they won't."

The Italian neo-fascist party, the

MSI, was staging a rally to drum up support for local elections which begin at the end of this month; some seven million voters go to the polls and the MSI, which has a substantial 6 per cent of the national vote, believes it has good chances of expanding its local base. But it was clear yesterday that the hero of the MSI remains Mussolini rather than M Le Pen.

As the neo-fascist leader, Signor Gianfranco Fini, said yesterday:

"Mussolini is our way forward." But the Frenchman's philosophy is kindred, and his support for the Italian cause quite evident. Speaking in French M Le Pen said that: "Democracy is working against us in France: the population is declining while that of the Third World is rising. There are one billion Islamic people and this will have doubled in 12 years." The Third World, he said, would subvert and

WORLD ROUNDUP

Lhasa massacre inquiry urged

British parliamentarians are to bring pressure for the massacre of up to 30 Tibetan monks by Chinese police in March to be raised before the United Nations Human Rights Commission (Andrew McEwen writes).

Reports at the time said 16 monks were shot or beaten to death and 840 arrested after protests. But a newspaper said yesterday that police stormed the main temple in Lhasa and clubbed to death 30 monks. Executions and beatings lasted several days. Lord Avebury, chairman of the parliamentary Human Rights Group, said he would ask Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, for information and seek to have it raised at the Commission's August meeting.

Kohl election blow

Bonn — Chancellor Kohl's Christian Democrats yesterday suffered a crushing defeat in a premature state election in traditionally conservative Schleswig-Holstein, where the Social Democrats won a landslide absolute majority (John England writes). Early computer predictions gave the Social Democrats under Herr Björn Engholm about 54 per cent of the vote, and 45 seats in the state assembly, an increase of almost 9 per cent on the previous poll last September and the party's best result in the state. The Christian Democrats of Herr Heiko Hoffmann, which had been in power for 38 years, were given about 33.6 per cent — down five seats to 28 — a loss of 9 per cent. The election was called to settle a deadlock in the 74-seat parliament after the last poll.

Mrs Mulroney hurt

Ottawa — Mrs Milla Mulroney, wife of Mr Brian Mulroney, the Canadian Prime Minister, was hit by a picket line carried by one of several hundred demonstrators who confronted her and her husband in Moncton, New Brunswick, at the weekend (John Best writes).

The crowd closed in on the couple as they walked towards a curling rink where the Prime Minister was to address a Conservative Party gathering. Mr Mulroney said his wife had been "struck violently in the stomach" by a man protesting at the closure of the local railway repair depot.

Row over diplomat

Singapore (Reuters) — Singapore says it will challenge any attempt to dispute that an US diplomat ordered to leave was interfering in domestic politics. "If at any time these facts... are disputed, the Government will prove them," a statement said. Singapore described the US claim that First Secretary Mr Mason Hendrickson had not acted improperly as "a diplomatic fig leaf". Mr Hendrickson was ordered out because he allegedly tried to persuade lawyers to oppose the government in elections and had suggested that financial support would be no problem.

Tougher hijack laws

Kuwait (AFP) — Stiff new penalties for hijackers, including the death sentence, are to be introduced here, a Kuwaiti minister said in a newspaper interview published here yesterday. The Minister of State for Services Affairs, Isa Mohammad Ibrahim al-Mazidi, told the *al-Watan* newspaper that the country would soon pass the new laws by decree. The measures come after the hijacking on April 5 of a Kuwait Airways 747 while on a flight from Bangkok to Kuwait. The hijackers shot dead two Kuwaiti passengers.

Sikhs kill 13 workers

Delhi — Sikh terrorists killed 13 migrant labourers in Panipat, Haryana, on Saturday night (Kuldip Nayar writes). This is the third attack in Haryana, a Hindu state adjoining Punjab, and has increased tension between Sikhs and Hindus.

At least 29 people have died in recent violence in Haryana and Punjab and the Government fears retaliatory attacks against Sikhs elsewhere in the country.

Polish church plays go-between for strikers and the generals

From Richard Bassett, Gdansk

Thousands gathered yesterday round the red-brick Gothic church of St Bridget's in Gdansk. Through loudspeakers, Father Henryk Jankowski's voice boomed across the city — to the children playing by the canal, to the striking shipyard workers at the Lenin complex and to the militiamen adjusting their helmets and shields.

A week ago, when police intervened after a similar service at St Bridget's, Gdansk saw its worst violence for years. Yesterday, however, the congregation dispersed. "Go in peace. Walk home calmly," Father Jankowski's words echoed around the near-by houses.

In quiet dignity the crowd of some 8,000 people, who only five minutes earlier had been shouting "Solidarity! Solidarity! No freedom without Solidarity!", meekly obeyed.

They had heard the priest support Solidarity, the banned union, praise its besieged leader Mr Lech Walesa and denounce the authorities for trying to starve him and the 800 strikers in the Lenin shipyard into submission.

Given the traditionally volatile mood of the Poles, the hot spring weather and growing support for the strike, now entering its second week, the ignition point was predictably low.

In the biggest demonstration of militia force so far, black-bereted anti-terrorist units and water cannon stood

ready in side streets. At one point, as the crowd streamed back towards the railway station, it seemed as if the seizure of half a dozen youngsters by riot police might begin a violent conflict.

But heckling and jeering



apart, the congregation of St Bridget's chose to go home peacefully. It was another impressive display of the Catholic Church's power in Poland and its unique capacity to discipline the emotional and defuse the hysterical.

On its traditionally favoured ground of broker and agent of compromise, the Catholic Church has taken a strong lead in Poland in the past week.

Negotiations between the Solidarity strike committee at the Lenin shipyard and the management, which were continuing yesterday, began on Saturday after Bishop Tadeusz Goculowski of Gdansk had a three-hour meeting with the local military commander.

At the time it was believed that they were only discussing humanitarian issues, such as allowing the strikers to see their wives and children. However, it later emerged that the bishop and the general had paved the way for the

Melo, Uruguay: On the second day of a four-country tour of Latin America, the Pope, left, yesterday kept up his strong defence of labour unions and workers' rights, a day after giving his support to strikers in his native Poland (Reuters reports). He said that strikes by Polish workers were justified and should not be ended by force, and called for economic and political changes to achieve true democracy and national sovereignty.

negotiations, which took place only after the Catholic Church had satisfied itself that it had obtained some guarantee that the strikers would not be immediately assaulted by riot squads or persecuted after leaving the shipyard.

This negotiating role has done much to restore the Church's prestige, which had slipped last week when, less than six hours after receiving similar guarantees for striking steelworkers at Nowa Huta, near Cracow, security forces broke into the plant and forcibly evicted the strikers.

The Church angrily denounced the use of force and the failure of the authorities to open any dialogue with the workers at Nowa Huta. Out-

ers, close to the Church hierarchy, accused the Government of duplicity.

From statements issued at the weekend, the Church has made it clear that the Government cannot risk ignoring it should it try to dispense with dialogue with Solidarity. Behind the Church's role in the crisis is its traditionally strong desire to avoid Pole being set against Pole.

In Gdansk yesterday, Mr Tadeusz Mozowicki, the former editor of the Solidarity weekly and the movement's adviser, was acting as the Church mediator in the latest round of negotiations.

Mr Mozowicki has been part of the talks between the management and the strike committee which, though not involving Mr Walesa directly, are crucial to relations between the authorities and the outlawed Solidarity movement.

Thanks to the Catholic Church, this fragile vehicle for compromise has come into being and may yet provide a solution to the crisis. Should it fail, few believe that next week's service at St Bridget's will end as peacefully as yesterday's.

WASHINGTON: The Polish Government's violent moves to put down labour protests have endangered the prospects of a resumption of direct American aid to Warsaw, according to a senior State Department official, Mr John Whitehead.

Record cocaine seizure in Spain

From Harry Debellus, Madrid

Police confiscated one metric tonne of pure cocaine, the biggest amount ever taken in a single raid in Europe, and arrested four suspected drug traffickers, an Interior Ministry representative said yesterday in the northern city of San Sebastian.

The drug raid, carried out on Saturday, was part of a co-ordinated international effort to block attempts by drug barons, particularly in the Colombian city of Medellin, to make Spain the principal trans-shipment area for illegal drug traffic to Europe, police sources said in Madrid.

The shipment, found in what appeared to be an abandoned warehouse at Irún on the French border, brought the total of cocaine seized in Spain in the past six weeks to about two metric tonnes, an amount equal to the total captured in all of Western Europe last year, the sources added.

Once "cut" and distributed, the tonne of "coke" would have been worth about 15 billion pesetas (£75 million) on the illegal street market in Spain, police estimated.

One Colombian is among the four suspects held. The cocaine was packed in plastic bags in cardboard cartons.

Last April 23 the Civil Guard confiscated 562 kg of cocaine — at that time the largest amount ever taken in one raid in Europe. It had been hidden in an abandoned concrete bunker built during the Spanish civil war half a

century ago on a beach near Barcelona. Last March 24 police in a Madrid suburb captured 325 kg of cocaine hidden inside panels for prefabricated buildings.

Police believe that drug traffickers have selected Spain as the new gateway to Europe because of its trade and travel links to Latin America; its long coastlines which are difficult to patrol; its relatively relaxed social attitudes and legislation; its limited drug control resources, and, above all, its thriving drug market. It is also a market in which tourists can be used to carry the illegal drugs to other parts of Europe.

One of the most ingenious ways of transporting cocaine was discovered just two months ago in Barcelona, according to a report published yesterday by *El País*. It consisted of chemically treating cocaine to turn it into a transparent film, which was then packed between panes of transparent plastic used to build small chests. No one knows how long this method was used before Barcelona police discovered the procedure after interrogating a Colombian chemist rounded up in a drug raid.

Other methods used to bring cocaine into the country involved packing it inside music records, between sheets of fine leather in briefcases, in packages of lithographs, in the intestines of horses, and even weaved into clothing fabric.

Defiant dissidents form Soviet opposition party

From A Correspondent Moscow

Dissidents defying arrest and intimidation from police and the KGB pushed on with plans to form an opposition political party yesterday in one of the boldest challenges yet to the policy of *glasnost* and the Communist Party's monopoly.

Dissident sources said at least 10 members of the newly formed Democratic Union were detained yesterday after leaving one of the three Moscow flats that are serving as discussion centres and makeshift headquarters for the union. The union announced its formation on Saturday during a news conference in a jammed Moscow flat.

Those detained as they left the meetings were released after several hours of questioning. More than 100 dissidents

representing groups from 14 cities held a second day of discussions yesterday aimed at formulating a co-ordinated policy of dissent through the starting an opposition political party. The dissidents have promised to release a party manifesto tomorrow at the end of their congress.

Uniformed and plainclothes police ringed all three venues, questioning dissidents as they entered and left the flat blocks.

The Soviet leader, Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, has frequently called for more democracy and pluralism as part of his reform package to reverse the country's economic stagnation, but he has stated that the Communist Party will not relinquish power. The challenge presented by an opposition party is unprecedented in Mr Gorbachev's rule and is certain to give his conservative opposition more ammunition in its efforts to slow the reforms. The

founding document of the Democratic Union was blunt in its criticism of Communist Party rule: "We define the contents of our activity as political opposition to the present order," the document said. It added: "No one has the right to decide for the people what direction to follow, only the people themselves, according to their sovereign rights, can choose the way on the basis of agreement and free voting."

Mr Alexander Bogdanov, who travelled from Leningrad to the meeting, said: "This is a shock for our officials. This is a shock for Gorbachev. When they talk about *glasnost*, *perestroika* and democracy they talk about a programme inspired from the upper levels down. Here is *perestroika* from the grassroots level and they suppress it."

He added: "Gorbachev is afraid of real discussion. He is afraid of people and people's ideas. We have

people from many persuasions here. There are Euro-Communists, social democrats, liberals, all types. We have a broad base."

Visit allowed: The long nightmare of Mr Vladimir Tufeld, a Russian Jewish engineer, and his desperately ill wife, Isolda, is to end on Friday (Andrew McEwen writes).

The Soviet authorities have agreed to allow him to visit her in an American hospital, after high-level approaches by the British and American Governments.

For five months Mr Tufeld, aged 60, has waited and worried in his Moscow flat, fearing that his wife would die without seeing him again. She was given permission to leave last December for an operation at an American hospital to remove a brain tumour, but has suffered complications.

All his requests to be allowed to join her were rejected because in the

past he had carried out government work which was considered secret. Now he has received a three-month temporary exit visa and is to fly to the US on Friday.

Yesterday he sent a message of thanks to Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, who interceded on his behalf, and to Mrs Thatcher. Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, was also involved.

Mr Tufeld broke the news in a telephone call to Mrs Joyce Simson of the Women's Campaign for Soviet Jewry in London, and she told the couple's son, Igor, who has stayed at his mother's bedside at the Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore.

Speaking from his flat in Moscow, Mr Tufeld said last night: "I have been waiting for this decision for 11 years. My wife is a little better though she remains on a respirator. He said that if she recovered the family would go to Israel."

Real-world power games by America's mythical heroes

From Charles Bremner
Los Angeles

The power trappings of an East-West summit seem small beer compared with a full-blown Beverly Hills bash. To the popping of flares, the silver Lincolns and white Rolls-Royces swish into the dingy underground car park that plays front door to the West Coast's version of London's Trump, and the show gets on the road.

The festa is for Jackie Collins, queen of steam and chronicler of the local life style. Her latest oeuvre is *Rock Star*, an all too realistically sordid tale about a familiar ageing British rock star and a Bel Air resident called Kris Phoenix (the

hero spends most of his time being called a creep, jerk and much worse by all around him).

March past the gaping crowd outside Trump, talk your way past the security and the hostesses into the glittering cavern, and you get a glimpse of the rituals of a tribe that is, in the minds of many Americans, their new ruling class.

As Bruce Springsteen's music bounces off the walls, the party assumes an elaborate pecking order as Miss Collins, with a lion's mane of hair and looking 20 years younger than her age according to her birth certificate, holds court in the centre with the big faces and the bald men with cigars and New York accents who do the deals.

Beyond Little Richard, Roger Moore, Quincy Jones, Susanne Somers, Charles Bronson and a bevy of other B-league players sipping their mineral water and white wine—liquor of choice in the new, fit Hollywood—come concentric circles of lesser types. Identical blonde starlets and bit-playing hopefuls wade through the forest of tinsel that hangs from batfons nuzzling at the ceiling.

A glance at their attire would warm the hearts of the Milan Chamber of Commerce.

"Darling, how's the movie," is the standard greeting. "Let's do lunch. I'll have my psychic fix a time with yours," comes another. "Going to the fat farm again," a

famous producer announces. "Gotta take off these 10 pounds."

Miss Collins is pronouncing on sex, the subject that fills her Hollywood tales. The events of the night make it into the national newspapers.

Time was when actors and popular musicians were for entertainment. Famous and glamorous, perhaps, but they were not invested with much clout beyond their domain.

That was before the Reagan presidency and the rise of celebrity as a source of power in its own right. America is now fast on the track to "amusing ourselves to death", as the sociologist Neil Postman puts it. In a recent book

with that title, he argues that America can no longer distinguish between reality and the myth of soap opera plots.

Celebs are an industry and everything they do and say spins money and, increasingly, political power. Sylvester Stallone, for example, has just landed \$15 m (£8 m) advance pay for his next *Rambo*, and he is being avidly courted by the Republican Party as booster for the un-Rambo Mr George Bush.

People magazine and a string of imitators sell millions of copies a week simply chronicling the banalities that pass celebrity lips. Every night millions tune into the peak time half-hour *Entertainment To-*

night, and to *Lifestyles Of The Rich And Famous*, a rival programme, just to get a glimpse of the sanitized good life. Cable news runs *The Hollywood Minute* in every one of its news broadcasts.

USA Today owes its success to its emphasis on celeb-power. "CBS taps Magnum Force," said one headline yesterday. "Sly drops Guest from his list," read another. As all readers know, Sly is Stallone and Guest is Cornelia, deb of the decade and his latest love.

At the same time, the audiences for the real news are diminishing. The big networks are struggling to find ways to attract viewers to their already very showbiz style of reporting. Most Americans, it

seems, prefer the comfort of Tinseltown.

So mighty are the familiar faces of the screen that the politicians bow in deference before them. Take for example Corbin Bernsen, the blond lady-killer of *L.A. Law*, an actor who only recently broke out of male modelling.

Asked a month ago who he might vote for, he pronounced regally: "Paul Simon. It's early, but I'm going to have a meeting with him. I like where he's taking the nation."

Pursuing the celebrity endorsement, Mr Michael Dukakis recently submitted to stinging interrogations from Whoopi Goldberg, Jane Fonda and Harry Hamlin, another *L.A. Law* star.

Scores killed as Beirut battles intensify

By Our Foreign Staff

Fresh battles between Shia Muslim militiamen vying for control of Beirut's southern suburbs erupted again yesterday, shattering an Iranian-sponsored truce and defying Syrian efforts to halt the bloodshed.

Militia sources and witnesses said Iranian-backed Hezbollah (Party of God) and pro-Syrian Amal gunmen were fighting furiously with mortars, rockets and machine-guns along most streets. Unconfirmed reports said as many as 80 people have died in the fighting. The number of wounded was put at more than 200.

Shells slammed into the suburbs at the rate of one a minute, forcing panic-stricken residents inside their houses after an overnight lull.

An Amal spokesman accused Hezbollah of starting the fresh battles by firing four



shells into an Amal position.

The fighting broke out despite a truce mediated by Iran and Syrian pressure on Amal to end the street battles, which began on Friday. Scores of residents had briefly ventured out of their homes yesterday for the first time after what is one of the worst confrontations yet between the main allies of Iran and Syria in Lebanon had erupted off into an uneasy truce.

During the brief respite residents had helped Red Cross volunteers searching for victims. Many of the casualties were civilians caught in crossfire or hit in their homes by shelling.

Both sides are fighting with field artillery and multiple rocket launchers and Amal has resorted to using Syrian-supplied T-54 main battle tanks in a residential area of about 16 square miles.

As the big guns fell silent for the temporary lull, the leaders of the two factions began a war of words. Mr Nabih Berri,

whose Amal militia is Syria's main ally in Lebanon, accused Hezbollah and its Iranian bosses of turning the slums into "a nest of terror where kidnapped foreigners are being held hostage".

Mr Berri, who last month launched a successful offensive against Hezbollah in southern Lebanon, went as far as alleging that pro-Iranian militiamen were holding the entire southern suburbs of Beirut in captivity.

Hezbollah's instant reply was equally hostile. "You are a war criminal," read a statement addressed to Mr Berri, in clear reference to the use of tanks. "Only spies of the (American) Great Satan call us terrorists."

The truce was arranged late on Saturday, only after Syria and Iran belatedly stepped in through top-level representatives. Mr Hossein Sheikholeslam, the Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister, toured the embattled slums ordering Hezbollah fighters to cease firing. Syrian and Amal officials did the same thing, but Amal fighters appeared to obey reluctantly.

According to reliable reports, Hezbollah was still in full control of the areas of Bir al-Abed, Hay Madi and Hay Mouawad in the heart of the suburbs. Its men were also said to have seized a number of surrounding Amal positions, which appeared to doom the truce from the start.

Mr Berri's campaign against Hezbollah has become the most formidable attempt by Syria to curb Iran's influence in Lebanon.

In spite of their "strategic alliance" in the Gulf War, both Tehran and Damascus have long been trying to outmanoeuvre each other in Lebanon and to win the obedience of the country's 1.5 million Shia Muslims. Those efforts which, in the case of Iran, are accompanied by an impressive investment in social programmes for the impoverished Shia Muslims of the south and the Bekaa valley, have provoked an unprecedented polarization of Shia Muslim forces.

Syria, which rejects the slightest notion of an Islamic revolution in Lebanon along the lines of that in Iran, is also keenly interested in gaining international credit with the release of foreign hostages kidnapped by pro-Iranian extremists linked to Hezbollah.

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Armed guards protecting Mrs April Glaspie, head of the State Department's section for Lebanon, as she leaves the home of Lebanon's acting Prime Minister, Dr Salim al-Hoss, after briefing him on American efforts to end the country's civil war.

Protest leader delays expulsion

From Our Own Correspondent, Jerusalem

Mr Mubarak Awad, founder of the non-violent Palestinian resistance movement against Israeli occupation, has won a High Court injunction to delay his deportation from Israel.

Twelve hours before he was due to be deported for overstaying his tourist visa, he instructed lawyers to appeal to the High Court and won an injunction which gave him at least another three days in the country.

In that time the Interior Ministry and police will have to justify expelling a proclaimed pacifist who was described on Saturday by Mr Avi Pazner, the Prime Minister's spokesman, as "one of the main contributors" to the

violent disturbances in the occupied territories. However the expulsion order was based on overstaying the visa and not on incitement.

The legal battle Mr Awad has started concerns the undefined status of tens of thousands of Arabs who were living in East Jerusalem when Israel captured it in 1967. Israeli law was extended to cover the entire city later that year, but Arab residents then, including Mr Awad, have never been given a legal status. Since then he has become an American passport holder and returned to live in Jerusalem as a "tourist".

His activities in founding the Centre for Non-Violence in 1985, advocating non-payment of Israeli taxes, boycotting Israeli goods and refusing to accept Hebrew documents, led to a clash with the authorities who refused to renew his visa in November last year.

On Friday he was given a deportation order, signed by Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Prime Minister and acting Interior Minister, and given three days to appeal.

Mr Awad's lawyers, an Arab and an Israeli working closely together, are fighting the case on the legal question of national status since allegations about inciting violence are not involved in the expulsion order. They have denied that Mr Awad ever

incited anyone to violence and this rebuttal will be included in the papers sent to the court.

Mrs Nancy Awad, his American wife, told a news conference yesterday: "He cannot be considered a tourist in his own homeland."

She read a statement written by her husband in prison, where he has been on hunger strike since his arrest at midnight on Thursday. "It is impossible for any person or state to take away from me the simple fact that I am a Jew and a Palestinian," he said.

Demonstrators both for and against Mr Awad have been mounting vigils outside the Jerusalem prison where he has been held.

Bush under fire over Noriega's work for CIA

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

Vice-President George Bush is under intense pressure to clarify how much he knew about drug trafficking by General Manuel Noriega, the Panamanian strongman who for years was an informer for the Central Intelligence Agency and escaped official United States investigations.

General Noriega worked for the CIA while Mr Bush was the agency's director from 1976-77, when the general's drug activities were well documented. The controversy could inflict serious damage on Mr Bush's presidential election campaign, particularly since the drugs crisis is such a central issue.

Meanwhile, the Reagan Administration's policy on Panama was thrown into even greater turmoil by a statement at the weekend by General Noriega that he had ended talks with US officials about a possible deal to end his rule.

Mr Bush, when asked during campaigning over the weekend if he knew about reports of General Noriega's drug ties, said: "Not that I was ever aware of." His election

strategies are not only worried about the Noriega affair. They are also alarmed that his campaign is being damaged by the intense controversy over Mr Edwin Meese, the beleaguered Attorney General, who refuses to resign despite questions about his ethical standards and business activities.

Mr Bush, who until now has refused to comment on the affair, acknowledged over the weekend that he was "troubled by some of these allegations" but said it was necessary to wait for a federal investigation to complete its investigations into Mr Meese's conduct.

Two senior aides issued forthright warnings of the possible election damage to the Vice-President if Mr Meese does not leave office—warnings that were clearly designed to distance Mr Bush from President Reagan's continued support for the Attorney General.

Despite the deep concern over Mr Meese, however, the Noriega affair appears to be far more threatening to Mr

Washington — The latest projections are that Mr Michael Dukakis could win the 2,081 delegates necessary to claim the Democratic presidential nomination by June 7, when the primary season ends (Christopher Thomas writes). He now has 1,513 delegates and aides estimate that he could win up to 350 more in forthcoming primaries. He should be able to collect at least 218 more from uncommitted delegates, or delegates elected to candidates no longer in the race.

Bush. Mr Michael Dukakis, the likely Democratic presidential nominee, is focusing attention on the issue and repeats that, if elected, there would be no more "dealing with drug-running Panamanian dictators". Reagan Administration officials were quoted yesterday as saying that Mr Bush was told nearly three years ago by the US Ambassador to Panama of allegations that General Noriega was involved in drug trafficking.

A memorandum prepared for the Vice-President by aides before a 1985 meeting with the ambassador stated clearly that its purpose was to "discuss US relations with Panama and narcotics matters". The memo was released by the Vice-President's staff at the request of several newspapers.

Only last week Mr Bush said of General Noriega: "There are a lot of people around the world who don't pass the perfection saliva test. But in terms of did we know he was smuggling drugs? — no." He insisted that he had not seen cables sent in late 1985 to the State Department by the then Ambassador to Panama, Mr Edward Everett Briggs, recounting Noriega's drug activities. Mr Briggs, now Ambassador to Honduras, strongly urged the Administration to end support for the Panamanian.

Mr Craig Fuller, Mr Bush's Chief of Staff, said the Vice-President was not "trying to suggest that he didn't know that Panama had a narcotics problem and that Noriega, as a key player in Panama, might have had some involvement".

Myung In, aged 56, a civilian and former Justice Minister. The previous incumbent, Mr Ahn Moo Hyuk, had been appointed by Mr Chun shortly before the presidential election.

The Reunification Democratic Party, one of the main opposition groups, said it was apparent the ruling party had failed to appreciate the mood of the electorate. Its spokesman accused Mr Lee of being a central figure in past military rule and of symbolizing the era of "politics by generals".

Critical newspaper commentators said the limited reshuffle reinforced the view that Mr Roh's Administration represented a change in style,

"What he's really saying is that certain knowledge didn't come until after the indictment of Noriega." The general was indicted in March in the US on drugs charges.

General Noriega, in his weekend statement on ending talks with American officials aimed at ending his rule, said: "We do not negotiate the dignity of a country and do not negotiate the dignity of a man. There are no negotiations."

The statement, given in an interview with a news agency, has meant new turmoil for US policy because, while the Panamanian economy continues to crumble because of US sanctions, new American intelligence suggests that there is no foreseeable prospect of a coup in Panama and that the general could hang on to power for some time.

In a new sign of desperation, the Administration has told the CIA to mount a propaganda drive against the general, using clandestine radio broadcasts, leaflets and rumour-mongering, with the focus on human rights abuses, drug dealing and corruption.

The Administration is angry that its attempts to topple General Noriega have not received the backing of the main Latin American democracies — Argentina, Uruguay and Venezuela.

The campaign against General Noriega has become a policy disaster.

US officials acknowledge that the general has succeeded in portraying the crisis in anti-American terms.

In the interview, General Noriega said he was willing to talk to the US about efforts to resolve the political crisis but would not negotiate an end to his rule. He also said that President Cerezo of Guatemala had offered a "positive" proposal but declined to provide details.

There is bitter disagreement within the Administration over the next moves. The State Department favours direct military action; the Pentagon opposes it.

Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, and Admiral William Crowe, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, are understood to have clashed angrily over what to do.

Roh ignores poll setback by retaining Cabinet old guard

From Gavin Bell
Seoul



Mr Roh: A change in style rather than substance.

President Roh Tae Woo of South Korea has decided to retain most of his recently formed government, despite a severe setback to his ruling Democratic Justice Party in last month's general elections.

In a minor reshuffle at the weekend he replaced only his Interior Minister and the director of the Agency for National Security Planning. No further changes are expected until after the Seoul Olympic Games in September.

Mr Roh had been widely expected to drop several ministers retained

from the previous regime of President Chun after his party lost control of the National Assembly.

However, the only Cabinet casualty was Mr Lee Sang Hee, who was replaced at the Interior Ministry by Mr Lee Choon Koo, a former ruling party secretary-general. The new minister, aged 54, is a retired army general who played a key role in Mr Roh's election last December as his campaign manager. He also served as Deputy Interior Minister when Mr Roh held that portfolio in the Government of President Chun.

The influential non-Cabinet post of chief of the planning agency, formerly the Korean CIA, went to Mr Bae

Myung In, aged 56, a civilian and former Justice Minister. The previous incumbent, Mr Ahn Moo Hyuk, had been appointed by Mr Chun shortly before the presidential election.

The Reunification Democratic Party, one of the main opposition groups, said it was apparent the ruling party had failed to appreciate the mood of the electorate. Its spokesman accused Mr Lee of being a central figure in past military rule and of symbolizing the era of "politics by generals".

Critical newspaper commentators said the limited reshuffle reinforced the view that Mr Roh's Administration represented a change in style,

rather than substance. An independent analyst commented: "It looks like they are a bit short of good people." The biggest opposition group, the Party for Peace and Democracy, meanwhile, prepared for the legislative battles ahead by re-electing Mr Kim Dae Jung as its president. The veteran dissident leader had resigned two months ago as part of an unsuccessful attempt to forge an alliance with the rival party of Mr Kim Young Sam.

Mr Kim Dae Jung's party is also flexing its muscles by opposing the nomination of Mr Kim Chae Sun as speaker of the new National Assembly.

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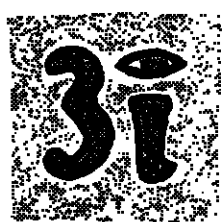
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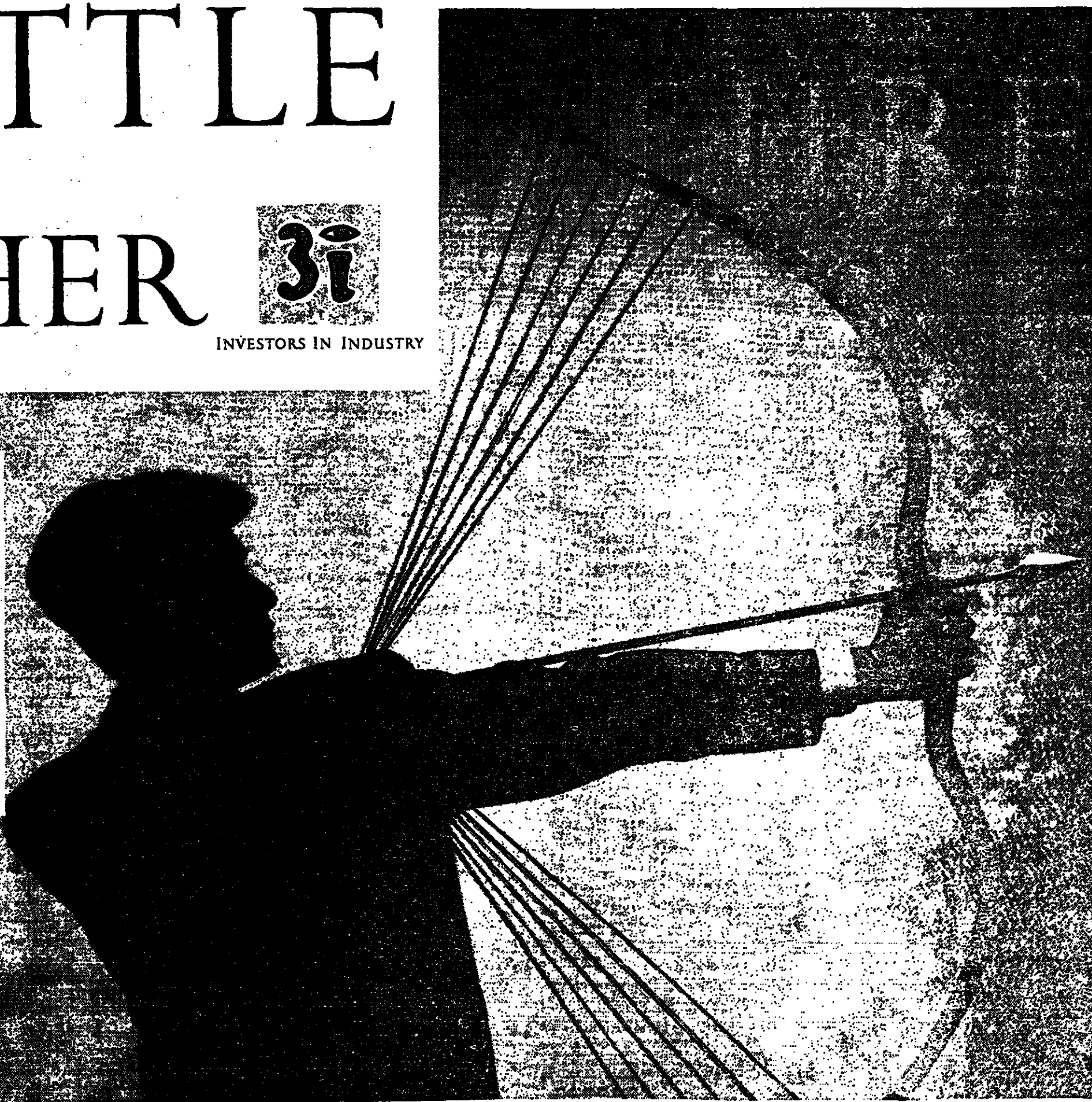
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SPECTRUM

The machines that can think



A piece of Proust's mind: at Stirling University a computer can imitate the inspiration of *A la recherche du temps perdu*

At Stirling University scientists have reconstructed a tiny part of Marcel Proust's brain. It sits on a desk in the psychology department, not looking very impressive, just a small grid of lines on a television screen.

Even so, it can do something which bears an uncanny resemblance to the events that took place in the French author's mind one afternoon in January 1909. Proust dipped a rusk into his tea, and its taste instantly rekindled distant memories of his childhood. When he later wrote *A la recherche du temps perdu*, the rusk became a madeleine, but the effect was the same: a small event triggered a vast and detailed recollection of past events.

At Stirling, they can imitate the essentials of this famous event. Dr Gerry Orchard, the psychologist cum computer scientist who designed the grid glowing on his desk-top screen, uses a computer keyboard to feed in a simple pattern of black and white dots to one side of the grid. He then tells the machine to remember the pattern.

The pattern can be taken as a crude model for many things: for example, a sequence of events in Proust's childhood, including the taste of tea-soaked madeleine. But then Orchard gets the machine to do something rather miraculous. He feeds in only a small part of the pattern, representing, say, the taste of the madeleine. The machine on Orchard's desk instantly recalls the entire original pattern, just as Proust recalled the whole of his childhood from the merest hint.

The reason that the machine is able to become a little like a brain (scientists loathe stronger comparisons with human abilities) is that it has been built according to a design which mimics the structure of the brain, with its myriad of interconnected cells, or neurones. The machine is called a neural net, and many scientists see in it the realization of an age-old dream: the building of a machine that can think.

Ordinary computers may appear very clever when, for example, they bring a jumbo

British scientists are leading the way in the search for a computer that emulates the human brain. Robert Matthews reports on the technology that makes their work possible

jet to a safe landing at Heathrow. But even the world's fastest supercomputers, which are capable of billions of operations a second, are really lightning-fast morons, capable of doing only one thing at a time. Tell them to pick out a face in a crowd, say, and they will be stumped.

Neural nets solve problems by working on different parts of a problem simultaneously. Such "parallel processing" is widely thought to be the key to the human brain's astonishing speed. Stirling University is one of many in Europe, the United States and Japan now carrying out experiments in this field.

Neural nets are not programmed like conventional computers to solve problems. Instead, like human beings, they have to be taught. Until recently, scientists were unable to find the so-called "learning algorithms" needed to teach a bank of neural nets to solve problems.

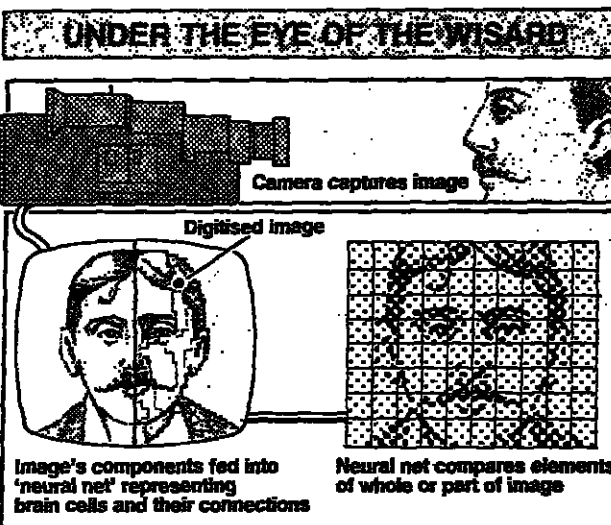
However, they have recently achieved a breakthrough with the discovery of

algorithms which enable neural nets to change their internal workings as they try to solve a problem.

This is beginning to produce startling results. For example, American scientists at Johns Hopkins University in Maryland have linked several neural nets which allows them to teach a machine how to learn English speech from written text.

When switched on, the machine just babbles at random like a baby. Then something sounding like English can be recognized emerging from the babble. After a few minutes, the machine has learnt to pronounce the words it is looking at, just like a young child.

"I've seen the video tapes of it learning, and it is pretty astounding," says Dr Leslie Smith of Stirling. One of Britain's leading experts on neural computing, Smith recently won a research grant from the EEC for Project



Brain (Basic Research in Adaptive Intelligence and Neurocomputing), which will attempt to build a machine which can demonstrate the capabilities of neural nets. The project is based at Stirling in recognition of Britain's leading role in the race to exploit machines that can think.

British researchers have already given the world its first glimpse of the sort of power tomorrow's thinking machines will have. Working at Brunel University, Professor Igor Aleksander, another of Britain's pioneers in neural computing now at Imperial College, London, has built the Wisard, a neural machine with simple microchips for brain cells.

The Wisard was designed in the days before sophisticated learning algorithms, but even so its electronic mind can learn what objects look like, and rapidly recognize them again.

Aleksander likes visitors to meet the Wisard. Sitting in front of the television "eye" of the machine is rather unnerving. The camera looks you over, then the Wisard's human controller tells the machine who you are. If you give your seat up to someone else, the Wisard soon realizes, and a television monitor relays the message that a different person has come into view. Sit down again, and the Wisard monitor is happy once more.

Despite its relative lack of sophistication, the Wisard has been bought and mass-produced by a British company, Computer Recognition Systems. Some companies are now exploiting its ability to inspect components coming off a production line, day in, day out, without mistakes and without getting bored.

Having built a commercially successful neural machine, Aleksander is already intrigued by the possibility of using his research in reverse — using neural nets to investigate how the brain produces emotions.

Colleagues at Imperial are already using computers converted into neural nets to test psychological theories of how human babies learn to talk. It is now quite possible, in the not too distant future, that computers may soon have the power to solve the scientific mystery of why we behave exactly as we do.

If any good came of Moro's death, it was a leadership example

Did Aldo Moro's murder 10 years ago herald today's tough stand on hostages? The man who refused to negotiate has no regrets

Ten years on the emotional scars still show. For thousands of ordinary Italians the outrage they felt on May 9, 1978 will come flooding back today as they commemorate the terrorist murder of Aldo Moro, five times their Prime Minister. The discovery of his body in a parked car in Rome, after a 55-day ordeal in which both Moro and his family appealed to the Italian Government to do a deal with his Red Brigade captors, left the country angry and divided.

The question it raised — "Should governments stand firm regardless of the anguish of victims and their relatives?" — has never been more relevant. It is being asked again in Britain as Jill Morrell, girlfriend of John McCarthy, one of the three British hostages in Lebanon, brings

pressure on the Government to follow the lead given by Paris last week. The British Government remains as determined not to negotiate as Rome was in 1978.

The price which the Red Brigade demanded was the release of terrorists held in jail. The man who took responsibility for refusing to buy Moro's life was his colleague Giulio Andreotti, then Prime Minister and now Foreign Minister. Moro's widow Eleonora never forgave him.

"She had the opinion that we should have done everything, whatever it might be, to free Moro. On the human plane, I can understand it," Andreotti, now 69, said in an interview with *The Times*. But while there was still no reconciliation with Signora Moro, he said he was in

touch with her children.

"The wife, I can understand her, because a trauma of this kind..." His voice trailed off. In the first days of the kidnapping the Moro family had bravely said that there should be no deal, but as the kidnappers stepped up the pressure by releasing anguished letters Moro had written in captivity, they became desperate for a solution.

"She dreamed even of opening the prisons to get Moro liberated, something we could not do," Andreotti refused to move even when Moro, in a letter sent from the Red Brigade's hide-out, accused his party of abandoning him. Andreotti



Stood firm: Andreotti

says he had broad political support for his stand.

In a final letter to his wife two days before they shot him, Moro wrote: "I kiss you for the last time..." The sense of betrayal felt by the family was so strong that they stayed away from the funeral to avoid seeing Andreotti and other members of the government.

Andreotti still believes that he was right, and there is little doubt that the British Government would agree.

"I am absolutely convinced that this was our duty, and if we made any mistakes it was to be too generous later in dealing with some of those held responsible," he said, referring to the much-criticized prospect that many of the 59 people convicted will benefit from early parole or amnesty.

Andreotti always assumed that Moro's letters were written under intense psychological pressure. "They ran counter to the thoughts and actions of his entire political life," he pointed out in a recent book.

Andreotti and Moro were hardly bosom friends, but their lives ran in parallel for 40 years. They were active together in the Catholic student movement as early as 1938. Later they worked together as journalists on a Catholic journal — Andreotti as editor, Moro as leader writer. Both went into Christian Democrat politics, and in 1953 emerged as rivals for the leadership of the Parliamentary party. Andreotti was defeated by 20 votes.

Italian governments came and went, but both men nearly always figured in them, frequently changing places and replacing each other as Prime Minister or Foreign Minister. Both men broke new political ground

by making deals with the Communist Party. Just before his death, Moro persuaded Enrico Berlinguer, then the Communist leader, not to bring Andreotti's Government down on a no-confidence motion, in return for policy concessions. Many Italians suspected that the kidnapping was an extreme right-wing plot, posing as left-wing terror movement, to stop Andreotti and Moro conceding more influence to the Communists. But nothing was ever proved and Andreotti considers the theory — still widely believed — to be ridiculous.

If anything good came of Moro's death, it was a leadership example in the face of kidnapping which British ministers discreetly wish Paris, Bonn and Washington would follow.

Andrew McEwen

Lives, by Giulio Andreotti, published last month by Sidgwick and Jackson.

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The questions vary in difficulty.

The answer to each question is a single word or name — but the number of letters in the answers do NOT correspond with the number of boxes — except for the longest.

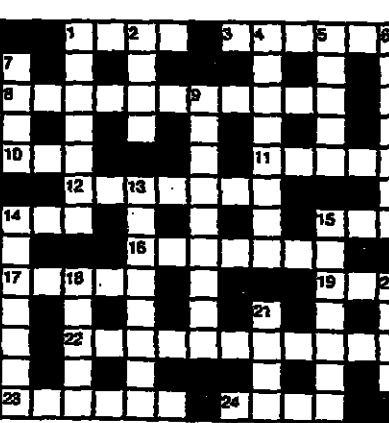
To some you may know the answers but mostly you will have to ferret them out.

Cut out this coupon and keep it until the end of the contest.

- Name of the Cunard liner that first reached the scene of the Titanic wreck.
- What in reality is the Black Prince's "ruby", worn at Agincourt in the helmet of Henry V?
- Christian name of the Kalogeropoulou family's singing daughter, born in 1923.
- He founded Ruskin, the first residential college for working people at Oxford.
- Inaugural Underground destination of the Queen in 1977.
- Writer to whom Robert Falcon Scott wrote that it would do him good "to hear our songs and cheery conversation".
- Juvenile monotheist whose wife was Nefertiti.
- Russo-French mystic in whose commune near Paris John Middleton Murry's first wife died.
- One-word title of the work that won an important prize for verse in 1985.
- French drink that used to be flavoured with wormwood.

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1559

- ACROSS
- Door frame upright (4)
 - Wrote (6)
 - Amsterdam national museum (11)
 - Fish trap (3)
 - Become confused (5)
 - Believe guilty (7)
 - Small French coin (3)
 - Adam's male (3)
 - Violent cattle disease (7)
 - Spin (5)
 - Mushy food (3)
 - Creedy victor (5,6)
 - Formal agreement (6)
 - Fit (4)



- DOWN
- Judo's predecessor (7)
 - Sail post (4)
 - Lift (8)
 - Wanderer (5)
 - Use up (7)
 - Journey (4)
 - Agreed to start (9)
 - Robust (8)
 - Woodworking powder (7)
 - Blot out (7)
 - Instil (5)
 - Quarry (4)
 - Creedy (4)



How are they linked to the man without a face?

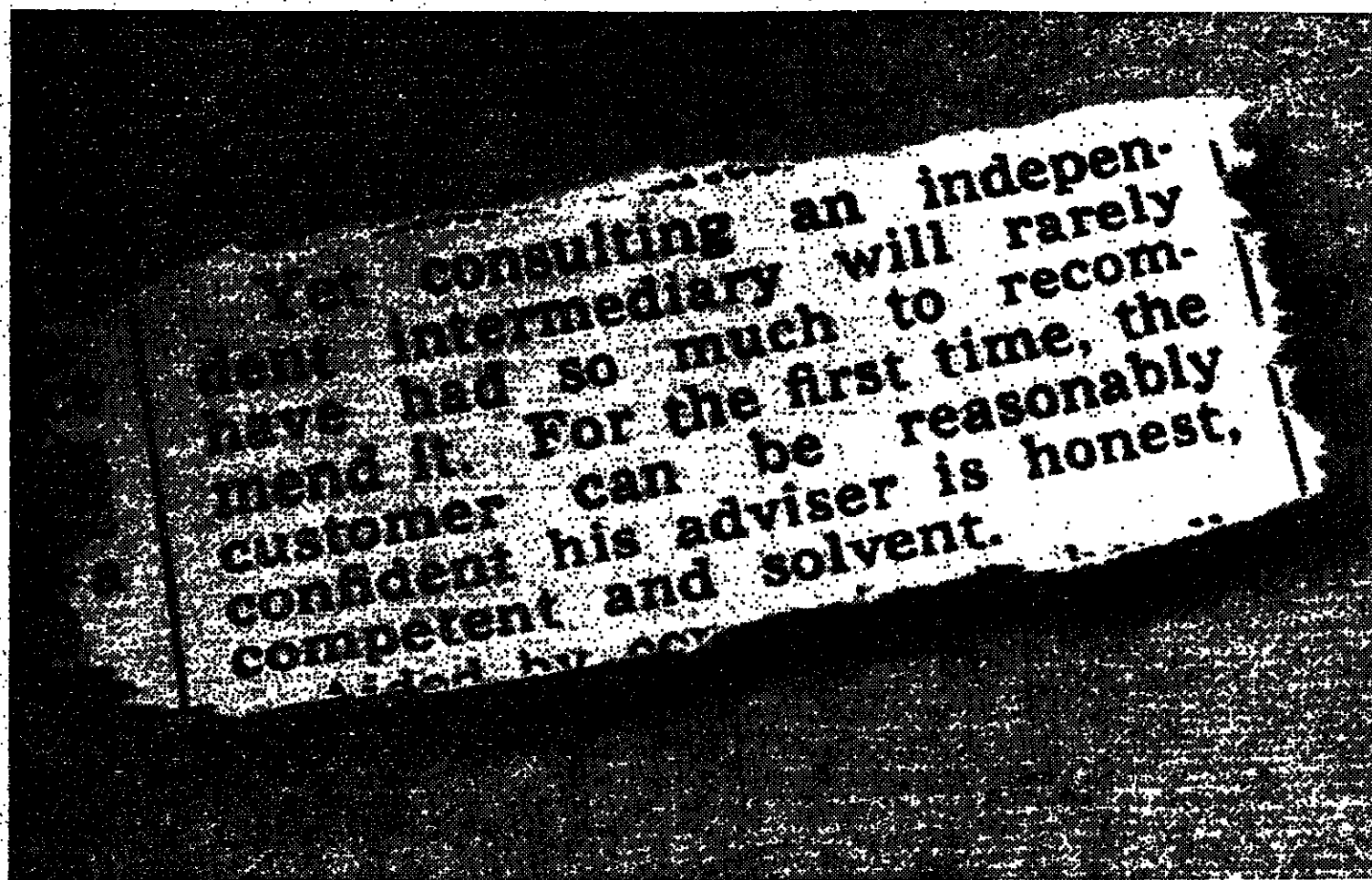
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FINANCIAL TIMES

NO COMMENT.



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TIMES DIARY CLEMENT FREUD

At noon on Friday June 3, ITV carries *The Sullivan*, an Australian soap opera not unexpectedly featuring a number of actors portraying people called Sullivan. Channel 4 is scheduled to show schools broadcasting - which will be axed after the summer holidays. I mention this not to upstage *TV Times*, which will tell you all: which Sullivan is which, played by whom, who directs, who produces, who lights and much, much more; but because at that time, upon that day, the President of the United States of America, homebound from the Moscow summit, is speaking at Guildhall in London.

Mrs Thatcher and most of her Cabinet will be there; the Lord Mayor and his Corporation will be among the audience. But the way things look at the moment neither commercial channel is to cover an event which affords Mr Reagan, in his final year of office, the first opportunity to report to the Western world the substance of his discussions with Mr Gorbachev.

ITN are standing by, waiting for the time slot to be vacated by Thames TV or Channel 4. One would hope that Lord Thomson, who showed courage to stand up for the screening of *Death on the Rock* against the wishes of the Government, will not delay in overruling an ITV company in order to replace a run-of-the-mill, recorded, Antipodean soap with a live event of substantial historic interest.

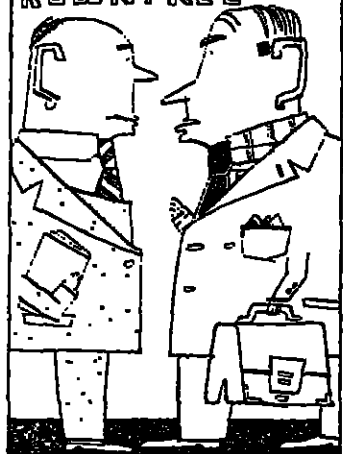
Mark Twain said: "Buy land my son, they are not making any more." As developers have started to make land again, I would advise a young man starting out to become a lawyer - of which sub-culture there appears to be an insatiable demand for the consequences of the relentless advance of civilization. The gorillas are rebuilding the London house next to which I live polished the party wall with a pneumatic drill. I rang my solicitor and obtained an injunction. The next day I noticed an alarming crack on my side of the party wall and was advised to sue for repairs. Westminster City Council, meanwhile, are digging up the pavement and one of their more talented workmen cut through our water supply pipe.

I know it is worse for the doctors and dentists who practise on the floors below (and are suing), but it was no fun having to do without baths, tea and lavatory flushes for 30 hours. Then, when the water came back on stream, we found that the cessation of supply had killed the washing machine... and had to look again for the solicitor's phone number.

Meanwhile my wife, who had parked 45 per cent of her car on a resident's parking place, leaving the rest unobtrusively occupying a single yellow line in a one-way street, got clamped. She went to the police in some dudgeon (55 per cent of a Renault-5 takes up v. little yellow line) and the officer behind the desk said (a) the clamp men were overdoing it and (b) the parking ticket was improperly filled out and must be appealed against - as should the clamping. Perhaps there's enough work for our own solicitor?

I once advertised a constituency fête in such guesstimate detail that the final line, "Send £2.50 if you do not wish to attend", achieved the biggest bonanza of the fund-raising year. I thought of that as the admirable Diorama Trust - which aims to restore Daguerre's Palace of Light in Regent's Park and create an arts centre with facilities for the disabled - fought the rains to mount its May fayre. I sent them a fiver.

BARRY FANTONI
ROUNDTREE



Last week, as it became time for the local election results to disturb the teleprinters, we knew as surely as we know that Dimbleby follows Day that the Liberal Democrats, Democratic Liberals, Socially Liberated Demagogues (whatever used to be the old Liberals, became the Alliance and disappeared) would have a thin time of it. The fact that it might have been worse had little to do with politics. SLD successes were about individuals - and friends of individuals - whose track records were sufficiently sound to retain the confidence of the electorate. The Alliance is no longer seen in a political context and the poor dears who looked for the party they knew and loved could make neither head nor tail of the new acronym on the ballot paper - and went shopping at Tesco's instead.

Paddy Ashdown - for it is he who will lead the new shebang - has a unique opportunity to determine the direction and spell out the policies of the new party. There is a ton of goodwill for a movement that distances itself from Thatcherism while shunning the irrelevance of the socialists. To translate that goodwill into positive support needs a new, credible voice. Paddy is an unlikely name for a prime minister; Charles, on the other hand, is, as Lady Bracknell might have put it, a name that inspires confidence.

It was a previous reference to Charles Kennedy that inspired my largest mailbag as a *Times* diarist. I had stated that while 28 was not considered a very suitable age for a party leader, there were three years to go before the next election and experience matured a fellow; feed an ordinary bee on Royal Jelly, I wrote, and it will outperform the other bees. Twelve bee-keepers wrote in to say I was wrong.

Lord Joseph won a moral victory in the Lords last week but lost the vote. The future of a national - or a nationalized - curriculum for our schools now depends on the outcome of behind-the-scenes discussions before the Education Reform Bill reaches the report stage in the Lords in a few weeks' time.

The question to be resolved is how far the Government will respond to such eloquently expressed abhorrence of a centralized and bureaucratically set curriculum; and whether the Commons, and the Cabinet in particular, will welcome any changes introduced in the Lords. It remains to be seen whether the Government will put down its own amendments or whether they will come from dissatisfied Conservative and other peers.

Before last week's debate very many of their lordships had been led to believe - no doubt by the whips - that they were voting for greater weight to be attached to the three Rs in our schools. Would that were so.

Probably most of us believe that children attend school to learn; that they should learn the basic skills of reading, writing and arithmetic; that they should also have a knowledge and understanding of science and technology; that a proper knowledge and understanding of our history and traditions from which the British culture stems is highly desirable, as also is some

Stuart Sexton on the danger lurking in Baker's education reforms

No nationalized curriculum



Joseph: laid the groundwork, now fighting the detail

understanding of the rest of the world; that learning foreign languages is important.

Many of us, including many peers, expect Christianity to be taught, properly and with commitment. Perhaps, above all, most of us think that all our children, of whatever ethnic origin, should be taught good English, leaving school able to read, write and speak it correctly.

To that extent we accept, even expect, a national curriculum to provide such a body of knowledge and skills. Using that definition most schools, state and independent, already provide one. (And those that do not are unlikely to pull their socks up just because Parliament tells them to: it is better management rather than better teaching that is needed.)

For the independent schools especially, the "market" of parental demand dictates that they do provide such a "national curriculum". The more a self-managing state sector also has to respond to parental demand, the more it, too, will have to provide an acceptable curriculum.

On behalf of society as a whole and parents in particular, Lord Joseph, when Secretary of State for Education, set out such a curriculum in *Better Schools*. An imperfect document perhaps, but it reiterated on behalf of all of us what we expect children to learn and teachers to teach.

All of that is a far cry from what is now proposed in the Education Bill, which is why Lord Joseph and others argued so cogently against a legislated, centralized, detailed curriculum. (The rest of the Bill devolving

possession is to dictate by statute - acting on the committee's advice - what history all our children should study, and what not; which textbooks it approves of and which not; it is going to presume to tell us what is good English literature and what is not. It is going to decide how much grammar, if any, is taught and whether algebra is still important. Furthermore, as with so many such committees and councils established by the DES, it will be the old Schools Council people and their like-minded successors dictating their own peculiar ideas as to what should be taught, such as modern English pornography instead of Milton or Shakespeare.

The Government's proposals will put the schools' curriculum into a straitjacket, removing all flexibility and retarding the continual process of improvement and updating. Once these proposals are put into tablets of legislative stone it will be years before the bureaucracy wakes up both to its own mistakes and to necessary changes.

What, then, can the Government do, given that last week's debate in the Lords exposed this sorry piece of over-centralization? It could withdraw the "national curriculum" proposals altogether but that is politically unlikely. For although the Conservatives never promised such a national curriculum, Kenneth Baker has now invested too much political capital in it.

What current discussions and likely report stage amendments may well do is to accept, albeit reluctantly, the list of 11 subjects - including religious education - as mandatory, but to amend the role of the Secretary of State and the National Curriculum Council to become advisory and not mandatory.

At the last vote, the peers tried to make the whole package discretionary instead of mandatory. The compromise now would be either to scrap the National Curriculum Council altogether, and that would be most welcome, or to make its recommendations advisory upon the schools, but nothing more. The opportunity remains for the Government to respond to last week's debate by returning to a national curriculum dictated by the "market" instead of a nationalized one dictated by government.

The author is Director, Education Unit, Institute of Economic Affairs.

Bernard Levin

A matter of faith and death

New York

Have you ever wondered what would have happened at the judgement of Solomon if neither woman had said a word? Would Solomon have cut the child in two? We would hope not, but remember that the decision had been handed down, and it was stayed only because the real mother withdrew her claim. Would the King's logic have compelled him to carry out the sacrifice?

This question is neither so abstruse nor so irrelevant as you might think, let alone wish. It is beginning to agitate the people of the United States, and before it is decided it will have agitated them a good deal more. In its modern form, it is the case of the State of Massachusetts v. David and Ginger Twichell, of Boston; the charge is manslaughter, and the defendants have pleaded not guilty. Only the first formalities have been completed; the case proper starts on June 1. But the bones of it are clear, and stark bones they are, too.

The Twichells are charged with the manslaughter of their two-year-old son, Robyn, who died from a bowel obstruction. When he became ill, they refused to seek medical advice or treatment because they are both Christian Scientists, rejecting the very concept of illness as it is generally understood. Instead of calling a doctor or taking the child to hospital, they called in two Christian Scientist spiritual healers, who prayed over the boy. Their prayers proved ineffective and he died.

Some 20 years ago there was a similar case in Massachusetts. A woman follower of Christian Science was charged with manslaughter in similar conditions when her child died without medical attention. She was convicted, and the fierce public debate that then ensued ended in legislation in these terms: "A child shall not be deemed neglected or lack proper physical

care for the sole reason that he is being provided remedial treatment by spiritual means alone in accordance with the tenets and practice of a recognized church or religious denomination by a duly accredited practitioner thereof."

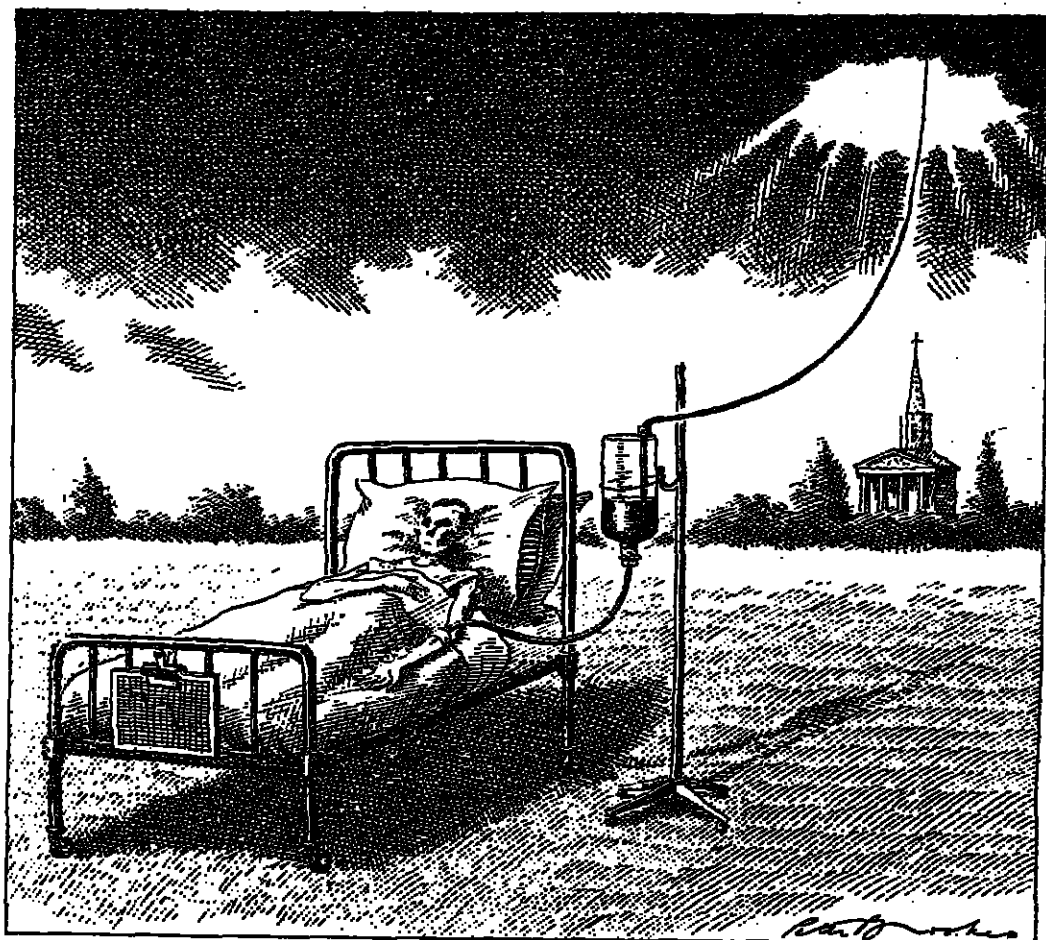
The defendants will rely on that clause; the prosecution insists that the statute did not relieve them of their responsibility when the child's life was in danger.

The first thing to be said is that anyone who came at once to a firm conclusion, one way or the other, on no more knowledge of the case than my exposition should be ignored. This tale is a tragedy in two senses, not one; the death of the child is obviously a tragedy, but the dilemma makes it a double one, and it is the dilemma that I wish to discuss, precisely because it is a dilemma.

Let us get one or two things out of the way quickly. The achievements of spiritual healing, even allowing for a substantial number of charlatans engaged in it, are manifold; to anyone with a mind not locked and barred against any idea sufficiently unusual to cause fear in that mind, the evidence is conclusive. But, like conventional medicine, it is not infallible. It might have worked with the Twichells' infant; however, it didn't.

Few, I think, would deny the Twichells' right to refuse orthodox treatment for themselves, even at the cost of their lives. But has anyone the right to deny the ministrations of secular science to those who are too young, or ill, or lacking in understanding, to make their own choice? There is, of course, no certainty that orthodox medicine will succeed when unorthodox has failed. But in this case, it was not given a chance.

It is not for us to interpret the laws of Massachusetts; that will be done in due course by the



appropriate authorities. But the moral verdict is another matter, and it here has to deal with the claims of religion. Does profoundly held belief entitle anyone to risk or cause harm to another?

There is an obvious *reductio*: what about someone who insists that he is a committed Aztec, and that his religion demands that he should undertake human sacrifice? Absurd; but would you like the job of drawing the line between the Aztec's claims and that of Christian Science? And if you would, where would you get a pencil with a point sufficiently fine to do the job?

The Jews, I believe, are in no

doubt; any dietary or sabbatical or similar practice enjoined by their religion is waived in a matter of life and death. (Very pragmatic people, the Jews.) I take it that no one would refuse the right of vegetarian parents to bring up their children without meat; but what if their vegetarianism is rooted in profound spiritual beliefs concerning the right to life of all sentient creatures, and one of the vegetarian children develops a rare medical condition curable only by drinking the blood of newly-killed chickens?

If you argue that no parents have the right to harm their children, what is your answer if

the parents declare that to harm their immortal souls is a much greater wrong than to harm their ephemeral bodies? Can you prove such parents mistaken? We could, of course, propose a compromise: the devout parents might try prayer, and then, if it doesn't work, fall back on the doctors. But what if the child dies anyway - would the parents not consider themselves accused for ever more, believing, as they undoubtedly would, that the child's death followed from their breaking the rules? (And suppose they were right in that belief?) Think about those rules. Most of us would think it sinful (or whatever term would be used by

those who become nervous at the very word) to neglect any possibility of saving a life. But have we the right to outlaw those for whom, in certain circumstances, it is sinful to use certain means for saving the same life? Can we distinguish between the two feelings of sin? If so, how? Certainly not by counting heads; mere majorities cannot establish such categories.

And there is another argument for the defence, though only the boldest Christian Scientist I suspect would use it. What about those people who trust in orthodox medicine for their dependants as well as themselves, and are told by the doctors that a condition for which treatment is sought is incurable and fatal? If they accept the verdict and reconcile themselves to the imminent death of a child, are they not culpable in failing to seek an alternative remedy in the ministrations of spiritual healers?

There are other echoes. One of the reasons we may find the Christian Scientist's stand alarming, or even abhorrent, is that we have come to put our trust wholly in the hands of the doctors, and persuaded ourselves that they are gods who have only to utter the sacred mantra ("Keep taking the tablets", for instance) to bring the moribund, if not the dead, themselves, back to full health. Many of the doctors know what dangerous nonsense that is, and are weary of telling the truth to those who will not listen; but I cannot see the notion being eradicated in a mere century or two.

If you have followed me this far, you will have noticed a striking lack of certainty in my views. But, as I have said, certainty in a matter so uncertain is deeply suspect. The only thing I am sure of is that I am glad I do not have to sit on the Massachusetts jury who will try the case. King Solomon didn't know when he was well off.

Commentary • ROBIN OAKLEY

Labour's false dawn

Labour campaigners were cock-a-hoop over their performance in last week's council elections, and with some reason.

A net gain of 107 seats compared with losses of 63 by the Social and Liberal Democrats and five by the Tories was better than they had dared to hope. Starting at the high tide mark of 1984, Labour consolidated its hold on a number of councils where it had feared Conservative inroads.

But when the story of the 1987-91 parliament comes to be written, this may yet go down as the great opportunity missed by Mr Kinnock and his team. What should worry them is the total lack of twitches in Tory quarters. Those projections of Tory seats likely to be lost on this trend at the next election, those predictions of a hung parliament, are so much hokey.

With the Government smarting from a series of climbdowns in the face of rebellions by Tory backbenchers and with the SLD and SDP, the former Alliance partners, floundering in the national polls, this was Labour's chance to re-establish its credentials as the only serious opposition. It was the opportunity for it to engineer the return to two-party politics in Britain. As Peter Brooke, the Tory chairman, put it, the Democrats were fighting "in the total absence of a set of coherent policies and without any visible leader".

In terms of election psychology, therefore, it was vital for Labour to be seen to profit in a big way from the disarray of its opponents. But despite those 107 seats gained, Labour failed to strangle the SLD at birth.

The three-party system emerged bruised but intact. What was significant was not how many seats changed hands but how few.

To the comfort of the mainstream Democrats, David Owen's SDP was virtually obliterated as a force in local government, taking only 3 per cent of the vote where it fought SLD candidates. But for the SLD things weren't nearly as bad as they might have been. It survives with some 3,500 local councillors as a base on which to rebuild a national party now the navel-gazing ceases and it starts looking outwards to the electors.

With a 40 per cent share of the vote Labour polled at a level consistent with its national opinion poll position. But since the local elections were held in areas where Labour would expect to do better than the national average, and since Labour generally polls between 3 and 5 per cent better in local elections than in national elections, it has yet to reach the territory where Mr Kinnock can dream of crossing the threshold of No 10.

And while it is right for Gerald Kaufman, Labour's foreign affairs spokesman, to argue as he did last week that the Tories were not elected in 1987 because they were electorally popular, but only because they were less unpopular than a divided and apparently extremist Labour party, he added that what Labour needed to win an election was not the 55 per cent of the anti-Conservative vote which it took then but 75 per cent. On Thursday night's showings, Labour remains well short of that target.

Though the SLD lost 63 seats, that was less than half of the 143

the Alliance gained when the seats were last contested in 1984 - it was not only Labour that did well that year.

And what will the pattern of politics be now? Never again in this parliament are the Tories going to work so hard at alienating voters as they have done lately. The unpopular items have been deliberately packed into the first parliamentary session and there is no sign of a significant Tory rebellion, for instance, on the privatization of electricity, the issue which will dominate next year's programme.

As for the SLD, they will shortly be choosing a leader, a process which could give them a burst of favourable publicity to be sustained by their first party conference in September. They are unlikely to sink as low again in the national polls.

And what will happen to those former Alliance votes which have meanwhile drifted across, in a 2:1 proportion, to the Labour and Conservative parties? As the votes of the most volatile part of the electorate it is unlikely that all will stick.

As far as Labour's fortunes are concerned the Kinnock-Benn and Hattersley-Prentice leadership battles have yet to take off, while the party conference in the autumn will bring to the surface the antagonisms of the left as Kinnock & Co seek to impose their reformist policy package. Labour has progressed but the crucial lesson of the past week is that three-party politics has taken deeper root among the electorate than some had imagined, and while it continues, under our present electoral system, Conservative government based on a minority of the popular vote is likely to do so too.

SCIENCE REPORT

OrDNance survey

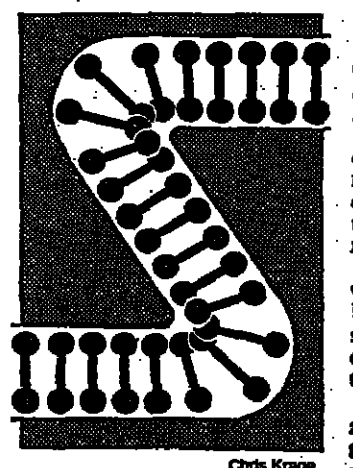
The project to produce a detailed map of the entire complement of human genes, and of the chromosomes which carry them, will be the most important step towards understanding the human organism, Sir Walter Bodmer, director of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, told a meeting of the London Cell and Molecular Biology Club.

The project, called the human genome project, is intended to produce a map of where genes are located on all 23 pairs of human chromosomes and to work out the underlying structure of the DNA which makes up the genes.

Each functional DNA molecule is a pair of long molecules twisted together into a helix, each of which is a chemical mirror of the other and whose structure is completely determined by the order in which chemical subunits called bases occur along its length.

Although several stretches of human DNA have now been sequenced, these are only a small fraction of the total DNA in the whole human genome, believed to contain about 3,000 million base-pairs.

Bodmer regrets that questions of national policy and prestige - especially in the US and Japan - have diverted attention from immediate applications. The important thing is the mapping itself, he said. Finding out where the genes lie on the chromosomes will "give us tremendous



Chris Krug

power" in working out the functional basis of the differences between people.

Presenting an impressive list of diseases known to have a genetic basis, he said that relationships between genes and symptoms are often unknown, largely because the genes responsible have not been found.

A comprehensive gene map would, he said, be of immediate use to researchers concerned with genetic diseases such as cystic fibrosis, muscular dystrophy, Huntington's disease and some kinds of cancer. Even heart disease and mental illness have genetic associations and "there is no human disease for which the genetic component is not of overriding importance".

How and when will the more distant goal of a complete base-pair sequence be achieved? One obstacle is cost:

US estimates of \$30,000 million spread over 15 years (about \$10 per base-pair) are more than the cost of the Apollo project to put men on the moon. The figures have caused many US biologists to fear that biology would become "big science" and that the project would rob other research areas of funds.

In the hope that automation will reduce the total costs, the US Department of Energy is spending \$17 million this year on the development of new techniques.

Ethical issues have also arisen, especially in relation to the uses that might be made of a complete base-pair sequence of the human genome, perhaps in judicious genetic counselling.

There are also serious data-handling problems. Edward Holmes of the University of Cambridge, a regular user of the existing international data-bases at the Los Alamos National Laboratory in the United States and at Heidelberg, West Germany, says the systems are already groaning under the weight of information, with 19 million base-pairs (not all from human DNA) already recorded in the Los Alamos files. But this is less than 1 per cent of the storage requirement for the human genome.

Bodmer says that storing this amount of information would not be a problem, but he recognizes the need to develop software to analyse it all.

HENRY GEE



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LAWFUL AUTHORITY

Mr McCuskie, as has been constantly — and correctly — pointed out by a defensive Labour front bench is no Marxist. But McCuskie and Marx have one thing in common.

Marx thought the revolutionary disorders of 1848 heralded the new revolutionary age in advanced Europe. But they were the last gasp of the old one. Mr McCuskie thinks the disorders of Dover herald a new age of union solidarity in Britain. But they are the last gasp of the old one.

Only one thing could change that, and prove Mr McCuskie a better prophet than Marx: a failure of nerve by authority. Authority is here defined, not just as Government, but as all whose duty is to lead, to discipline, to manage and to ensure that no group gets its way merely by superior muscle. Authority is ministers, courts, police, employers and — supremely — the rule of law.

Trade union militancy and bullying has been beaten, or at least subdued, in Britain thanks to an effort of the will by authority through the 1980s. Throughout the 1970s the authority figures did the opposite. Mrs Thatcher's 1979 government brought the law into industrial relations. The end product of the long process is the sort of financial ruin facing Mr McCuskie's union today. That is unpleasant for Mr McCuskie and his union, good for the rest of the country. Once more, it will be shown that old-fashioned militant unionism cannot be allowed to preserve jobs in the short term at the expense of jobs later.

But old-fashioned unionism of the kind embodied in the Dover dispute is being beaten not only because of the Tory industrial relations laws. It is being beaten because society now has enough will, and a sufficiently high morale, to enforce them.

In the early 1970s a Tory government also brought the law into industrial relations. But that government gave every sign of shrinking from the consequences. The rest of authority took its cue from Government — as it so often does — and the laws were not enforced.

Laws are not enough. There must be the will to use them. Also, Government must genuinely believe in the sort of economy which alone can break up coercive union monopolies.

At the first breath of illegality and defiance, authority's nerve in the early 1970s crumbled. A few dockers were jailed. But within hours they were spirited to freedom through the sudden agency of a previously obscure public notary, the Official Solicitor.

Much breath and ink have been expended

ever since by survivors of that government to show that ministers as such had nothing to do with that intervention — that the mysterious functionary acted of his own accord. Whatever the explanation, the incident told union militants that authority was not serious. Few employers cared to take unions to court once they knew that law-breakers might escape the consequences, and that the Government would show every sign of being relieved when they did.

Another piece of folklore from that sorry period is also significant. Glasgow's senior policemen of the time are accredited — or blamed — with advising the Government that, if Upper Clyde shipbuilders were closed, they could not guarantee law and order in the city. Such advice encouraged Mr Heath's administration in its first great U-turn. ("U-turn", as a political phrase, derives from that period.) Far from closing Upper Clyde, the Government poured taxpayers' money into it, and began the surrender of the free-market cause on which it had been elected.

In the 1980s, the police — in the miners' strike, at Wapping, and now in Dover — did not counsel surrender, but did their duty. Employers have resorted to the courts — tried and traditional courts rather than to the flimsier Industrial Relations Court set up by the earlier Conservative union legislation. Authority's morale has been restored. It is the morale of old-fashioned unionism — so incomparably higher than that of the Government in the early 1970s — which has collapsed, as Mr McCuskie is discovering as he vainly tries to lure the TUC closer to his side.

Changes in the wider economy have helped. In the early 1970s, the old industries — employing huge numbers of workers in huge works — provided a reserve army for big strikes and politicised militancy. The decline of such industries as steel, old-fashioned newspaper printing, and the lessening of overmanning in the coalfields, has cut off the union leaders' and the militants' supply of cannon fodder.

But the will of society as a whole to deal with union abuse of power remains the key. If the morale of legitimate authority — among Government, employers, police, and courts — stays high, it will win at Dover and at TV-am, and in any later struggles around the overmanned television studios, just as it won in the coalfields and at Wapping. It is in everyone's interests, except that of old-fashioned trade unionism, that it should.

MORAL SCIENCE

Academics at London's universities and colleges are to take part, with students, in a campaign against other academics carrying out military research, particularly nuclear and space weapons projects in campus laboratories. Undoubtedly, the protesters believe themselves morally superior to their colleagues.

Or at least, the protesters believe that their colleagues have not seen the humanitarian light in the way that they have. Some academics are engaged in research on weapons which could kill untold numbers of people. Other academics do different work — work that is "peaceful". The latter seem to assume that their work is therefore inherently nobler, more in the service of mankind. The potentially horrific uses to which the research could eventually be put is what is emphasized. That those weapons might also deter states from starting wars, and therefore save the lives of untold numbers of people, is ignored.

So the protesting academics have no monopoly of morality. They have no more right to hinder their colleagues, or seek morally to confuse them or to politicize them, than would the weapons researchers have the right to insist that other academics work on nuclear weapons out of patriotic duty or the need to deter the Soviet Union. Each group of academics should be allowed to decide according to their conscience. And, on the subject of nuclear weapons and weapons of war in general, too much is heard from one particular manifestation of the scientific conscience.

What of the other? Many scientists believe that nuclear research is indeed morally justified. But one cannot escape the impression that they are a little shamefaced about that belief. They should not be. But, being less noisy, less organized, and less obsessed with politics than those who seek to put a stop to their work, it is understandable that they should be rather hesitant to defend their activities.

But scientists who believe that nuclear

weapons research is justified can point to the unprecedented period of peace in Europe, and peace between the superpowers, since the dawn of the nuclear era. That peace may at times have been fragile, and for its indefinite continuation it is unwise to rely solely on the existing balance of terror rather than on strategic defence (which, now that cause has been embraced by President Reagan and the United States, the protesting academics are against). But the peace is an historical fact.

Given the vast ideological and strategic conflict of interest between the Soviet Union and the West since 1945, it flies in the face of all European precedent to assume that — without the nuclear balance — war between the two blocs would not have broken out in the European heartland at some time during the last generation, over Berlin, over Hungary, over Czechoslovakia, over any number of crises. In the pre-nuclear world, European powers would mobilize against one another far less.

Over the years much sophistry has been deployed to show that there is no causal relationship between the long European peace and the nuclear era. There is, however, the massive fact of the two having coincided. Nuclear weapons researchers are therefore at least as entitled to claim a moral content for their work as any of their detractors.

Nor should it be assumed that weapons research will always make weapons more horrific and an ever greater threat to civilian populations. The second industrial revolution being brought about by the computer and the microchip is making possible a generation of cleaner and more accurate weapons. These could be directed at exclusively military targets with much greater accuracy than in the whole history of warfare. Anyone who frustrates such work frustrates a more humane defence. The academics who join this latest anti-nuclear protest should at least pause before assuming themselves morally superior, or more enlightened, than the scientists they are hindering.

Stansted error

From Mr T. P. Shell

Sir, Am I being naive in thinking that the growing concern over air safety in the South-east is a pointer to the enormity of the Government's error in opting to develop Stansted as a third London airport?

This decision can only exacerbate the problem and was presumably based on extrapolation of statistics of traffic hitherto using Heathrow and Gatwick, a large proportion of which does not originate in the South-east but is forced to use these airports.

The bulk of the population and industry of this country is located in the Midlands and North and it is surely obvious that there is a need for a centrally located international airport.

If this were established (say by extending Manchester Ringway) I believe airlines would readily transfer some of their operations from London and there would be appreciable savings in costs for industry and commerce.

By siphoning off a significant part of the air traffic from the

congested South-east, I assume that the task of those responsible for UK air safety would be eased.

Is it too late to reverse the costly development of Stansted (complete with its own railway line)? If this were possible it would save the taxpayer many millions, reduce industry's costs substantially and, not least, make a major contribution to safety in our skies. Yours faithfully, T. P. SHELL, 16 The Park, Chislehurst, Kent.

Hidden treasures

From Mr Rodney Brangwyn

Sir, A few years ago I made an appointment at the Tate Gallery to see certain pictures that at the time were in store. I was taken down to the basement, but the large picture I wanted to see was pinned behind a deep stack and could not be reached.

Last year I made an appointment to see similarly unexhibited pictures at the City of Leeds Art Gallery. They were all brought out, save one, which couldn't be found.

From Leeds I travelled to Cardiff on a similar mission. At the National Museum of Wales I was shown several drawings and water-colours, but not a single one of the eight oils I had hoped to see, all of which happened to have been donated by my great-uncle.

For many years I thought I would one day leave certain works from my own modest collection to the nation. I will not do so now. To the donor it is not a pleasing prospect that works which are not currently regarded as masterpieces will be consigned to the cellar at the keeper's pleasure. (The picture I was unable to see at the Tate has been continuously in store since the war.)

I wish it were otherwise, but practical considerations dictate that the happiest fate, at present, for pictures when a collection is broken up is for them to be acquired by admiring owners on the open market.

Yours faithfully, RODNEY BRANGWYN, E Wetherby Mansions, Earl's Court Square, SW5. May 3.

Gibraltar film: rights and wrongs

From Lord Scarman

Sir, Surely it is time that we cooled the debate on the rights and wrongs of the Thames TV broadcast on the shooting of the terrorists in Gibraltar. The portentous observations of Mr Nicholas Fairbairn, QC, MP, (May 4) should be seen as what they are, a *non sequitur* which could damage the public's right to be informed and to comment on matters of public interest.

There is no trial imminent in the United Kingdom which could be prejudiced by the broadcast. There is no public inquiry set up, or even promised, in the United Kingdom. The broadcast, therefore, could not be stopped as a contempt of court or as a threat to any judicial proceedings pending or promised in the United Kingdom.

Mr Fairbairn's comparison of the broadcast, which lacked any cross-examination or testing of the two persons who said they witnessed the shooting, with the safeguards which would be part and parcel of the reception of their evidence in a criminal trial proves nothing except that, if there were to be a trial or public inquiry at some future date, the jury would have the substantial protection of our rules of evidence against drawing erroneous inferences based on the broadcast.

The right to be informed and to comment upon matters of public interest is vital to the working of a democratic society. Restraint is justifiable if necessary to prevent prejudice to judicial proceedings which are imminent. But to extend the restraint to protect proceedings overseas would have serious implications. It would, for instance, imperil the opportunity, often the only opportunity, of

exposing the victimisation of the innocent in many parts of the world.

The difference between Sir Geoffrey Howe and Lord Thomson of Monifieth is not a question of law but a matter of judgement in the conduct of public affairs. Sir Geoffrey was fully entitled to put the Government's view to Lord Thomson, who was equally within his rights in rejecting it.

It would be sinister indeed if the Government could impose restraint upon a broadcasting authority acting within the law unless able to establish to the satisfaction of the High Court a sufficient ground for an order to that effect.

Yours sincerely, SCARMAN, House of Lords, May 5.

From Mr Ludovic Kennedy

Sir, Surely the overriding value of the Thames and BBC television programmes is that they guarantee that at least two witnesses who, by accident or design, might not have been called at the coming inquest will now be called. Their evidence may be worthless. But that will be a matter for the seven to 11 members of the coroner's jury, for whose independent judgment I have a great deal more respect than Mr Fairbairn, Mr Lawrence (May 5) and other of your more extreme correspondents.

Incidentally, the two programmes were not trials of anyone, but partial inquiries. The coroner's inquest will be, if the SAS men are called to testify, a full inquiry.

Yours etc, LUDOVIC KENNEDY, Ashdown, Avebury, Wiltshire, May 6.

The rule of law

From Mr R. J. A. Cadman

Sir, Mr Conor Cruise O'Brien suggests (article, May 3) that, in the case of terrorists, the "rule of law" and the presumption of innocence ought to be suspended. The argument is an interesting one, but there are two areas which, I suggest, need further thought.

First, how will "persons reasonably suspected of terrorism" be defined? If there is to be a suspension of the "rule of law" we need to know the limits.

Second, the argument suggests that terrorists can be treated differently from common criminals under law. At present a murderer is a murderer no matter his or her motives and is punished as a murderer, not as a political murderer. Indeed, this principle was stoutly defended during the IRA hunger strikes earlier this decade.

I suggest that a suspension of the "rule of law" for terrorists negates this important principle. I remain yours etc, RICHARD CADMAN, 8 Wexford Road, SW15.

From Sir Leslie Glass

Sir, Conor Cruise O'Brien has put into cogent words what many people have long been thinking. Our precious "rule of law" does not apply as against an enemy in wartime.

The fight with the IRA is much closer to wartime conditions than to normal relatively peaceful times. Internment without trial,

although a deviation from the rule of law, is a sensible and practical way of facing the dilemma.

When I was on Field Marshal Harding's staff in Cyprus during the EOKA troubles gunmen callously shot down unarmed victims in broad daylight in the middle of Nicosia. The rule of law is based on the presumption that witnesses to a crime will testify to this in a court of law. Colonel Grivas's ruthless policy of murder of his fellow countrymen who in any way helped the Government meant that no witnesses dared come forward.

The alternative then was internment, or letting the gunman have freedom to continue his campaign of murder. And to spread the net wider, this "suspected" terrorist is, as Conor Cruise O'Brien says, usually a terrorist in fact.

Many people would think a Government "shoot-to-kill" policy was, against terrorists who declare themselves to be in a state of war against the society in which they move, a reasonable enough policy. But although such a policy should not be ruled out, it has many dangers.

Internment is much more easy to defend. It is certainly preferable to acquiescing "in a silent devaluation of the general concept of the rule of law", which is where the present patently illogical situation is leading us. Yours faithfully, LESLIE GLASS, Stone House, Ivington, Leominster, Herefordshire, May 3.

Christian teaching

From Mr Nicholas Hillier

Sir, Anglican inhabitants of the parish in which I live must have read their lordships' letter (May 3) with feelings of high irony. In the course of the last two years, amendments to the selection criteria of my local church school have made it more difficult for the children of churchgoing parents to obtain places for their children.

Formerly all places were to be allocated, second in order of priority (after siblings), to children of parents who were active in the life of specified local churches. The amendments substituted a requirement only that the parents should be sympathetic to the aims and ideals of the school and wish their children to be educated in a Christian environment.

The revised criteria as regards my own church have, excepting siblings, resulted in no children of active members being admitted.

The school is managed by a board of governors of which a majority is appointed by the Church. My experience is curiously at odds with the expressed desire on the part of the Anglican establishment to maintain the Christian identity of its schools by

proper provision in any "core curriculum" for religious instruction.

Yours faithfully, NICHOLAS HILLIER, 11 Deatry Road, SW15, May 4.

From Rabbi Jonathan Romain

Sir, I have much sympathy for my fellow non-Christian, the imam, who is said to pray that the British would start to honour the name of Jesus again (Clifford Longley, May 2). Only last week I was told by a class at a supposedly Church of England school that the Last Supper was the final meal before a nuclear war!

It benefits none of the other faiths that the level of Christian knowledge and religious awareness is so poor in this country. One result is that moral imperatives are lacking and society loses much of its coherence and stability.

Another result is that religious toleration declines, for usually there is little respect for the beliefs of others by those who do not value their own religious heritage.

Amen to the imam's prayer. Yours faithfully, JONATHAN ROMAIN, 79 St Mark's Crescent, Maidenhead, Berkshire, May 3.

Mounting burden

From Mrs Joan Startin

Sir, During the May Day Bank holiday my brother and I spent a happy hour browsing through the old family album recalling youthful birthdays and holidays. Our children also looked through the albums we had kept recording their childhood but, as there were eight, it took them a good deal longer.

This set me wondering about the ordeal which lies before our granddaughter since, at the age of just a year, there are already eight albums devoted to her progress. If this present output is continued and added to the photographs of future brothers and sisters, it looks as if a whole month will probably need to be devoted to recapturing nostalgic memories.

Yours sincerely, JOAN STARTIN, Dyke Cottage, Lightwater Road, Lightwater, Surrey, April 29.

Sight to forget?

From Sir John Dilke

Sir, Allow me to defend the wartime building beside the Horse Guards to which your correspondent Mr Mein (April 29) objects.

Though often referred to as "Lenin's tomb", it was built to enable us to preserve the freedom Mr Mein enjoys and is regarded therefore by survivors of the Blitz almost with affection. Moreover, it has been successfully screened by one of the largest expanses of Virginia creeper in London, which at nearly all seasons is a sight for sore eyes.

Anyone can think of eyesores more worthy of demolition than that memorable pile, itself a memorial of those heroic times.

Yours truly, JOHN DILKE, Ludgits, Etchingham, Sussex, April 29.

Protection of pension rights

From Mr D. W. G. Sawyer

Sir, It is greatly to be welcomed that the Minister for Social Security has requested the Occupational Pensions Board to conduct an investigation of the protection of pension rights. Many arrangements under which pension schemes are presently administered are quite unsatisfactory, especially concerning entitlements to actuarial surpluses and the use of surpluses to fund company contribution holidays.

Trustee bodies consist almost exclusively of management, including even chairmen, of employing companies on the one hand and of employees on the other. Pensioners and deferred pensioners remain woefully unrepresented. In heavily unionised industries the muscle power of the existing employees can make itself felt. But pensioners, elderly, unorganised, scattered and often uninformed, seem powerless. How can they be sure that trustees are treating them with an even hand?

The OPB investigation can open up a number of courses. Model rules for the management of schemes could be laid down by the OPB as was advocated, with other useful reforms, in Sir Brandon Rhys Williams's Pension Trusts Bill which fell with the dissolution of Parliament last year. Those rules should seek to strengthen awareness that schemes are trusts in which all members, and not least pensioners, have equal status as beneficiaries.

Compulsory representation on the trust body of different classes of beneficiary is another alternative. And in view of the clearly conflicting interests of employers and each of those classes, as well as of their disparity in influence, there is much to be said for schemes being managed, with due allowance for consultation, by

wholly independent trust corporations.

Regardless of the OPB investigation, another course always open is to ask the court to appoint a judicial trustee to act alone or jointly with the existing trustees and, effectively, to review their actions.

Of more immediate concern is that trustees, mindful of their exclusive duties to scheme members and of the depreciated value of the pensions paid to many of them, should view with even greater circumspection attempts by less meritorious claimants to move in on the present surplus honey-pot before the OPB investigation defines its status more clearly. Retrospective protection may need to be on the agenda.

Yours truly, D. W. G. SAWYER, 17 Morpeth Mansions, Morpeth Terrace, SW1, May 3.

ON THIS DAY

MAY 9 1876

The London concerts given by Wagner were, according to Ernest Newman's *Life of the composer*, a social and artistic success, if not financial. Wagner met George Eliot and Robert Browning and was received by Queen Victoria at Windsor.

WAGNER FESTIVAL

Herr Richard Wagner had little reason to be otherwise than satisfied with the welcome accorded to him on Monday night in the Royal Albert Hall, when the first of his projected series of concerts was given. A very large audience greeted him with a cordiality not to be mistaken. Everybody, in fact, was glad to see the man about whom all musical Europe has been talking, and who, by talking on his own account, has incited all musical Europe to talk for more than a quarter of a century. The particular theories of Herr Wagner with regard to art, however, have been sufficiently discussed, and just now, had we the inclination, we have not the space at command to discuss them again. Enough that in August of last year he persuaded curious speculators from almost every part of the civilized world to visit an effete town situated in the midst of the Franconian hills, for the purpose of testing the ultimate result of his labours as exhibited in a cycle of four dramas, or "stage plays", performed at a new theatre, built entirely through his own indefatigable exertions. Such an unexampled assembly of noted personages, belonging to so many different spheres of thought and action, was in itself a thing to remember; and if the tetralogy of the *Ring des Nibelungen*, while generally admitted to be an artistic success, turned out a pecuniary failure, it is not the less to be regarded as a significant sign of the times, directing attention to a new tendency, which as things progress, may lead art into other channels, and cause it to assume other forms than those to which we have hitherto been accustomed. That Herr Wagner, whatever diverse opinions may be entertained about him as a man of controversy, or as a working representative of art, has caused earnest people to think a good deal is undeniable. It is not so much his poetic ideal as his mode of setting it forth that has provoked, still provokes, and is likely to provoke antagonism. But enough of this for the present.

The programme of Monday night's concert was more immediately interesting on account of the excerpts from *Das Rheingold* than for the miscellaneous selection preceding them. The pompous "Kaisermarsch" is well known here; while very little of *Tannhäuser* is unfamiliar to our amateurs. Nor can the fragments from *Rienzi*, an early opera, on the subject of Bulwer's famous romance, be looked upon as strangers. By the way these fragments seemed rather out of place, coming directly after the "Kaiser March", one of its author's most recent compositions. The orchestration of which sounded almost overwhelming, even in the vast arena of Albert Hall. The whole first part, nevertheless, was received with favour, and the exquisite singing of Madame Materna — in the duet from the second act of *Tannhäuser*, created an impression that could not be mistaken. Madame Materna's partner in this duet was Herr Georg Unger, who also earned laurels at Bayreuth.

Best of all, however, — worth the rest, indeed, put together — were the excerpts from *Das Rheingold*, consisting of the opening and closing scenes — the stealing of the gold from the "Rhine-daughters", by Alberich, and the entry of the gods and goddesses, over the rainbow-bridge, into the giant-built Walhalla. How much of its effect the music with which Herr Wagner has almost magically illustrated these passages must lose by separation from the dramatic context and stage accessories is easy to understand...

Birthday treat

From Mr A. B. McIntosh

Sir, Captain Wilson (May 4) was astonished to see his Aunt Sophie's marriage announcement in Esso's reproduction of *The Times* of April 27, 1888. My Great Aunt Winnie (Lumb) was no less surprised to read in the same issue the announcement of her birth, the centenary of which she celebrated last week.

Yours faithfully, A. B. MCINTOSH, 7 Steele's Road, NW3, May 4.

From Mrs Brian McQuade

Sir, We too are in Esso's advertisement — at least Harcourt's!

Dr Harcourt put some Georgian cottages together in the 1830s; Dr Viney announced on April 27 the birth of a son to his wife on April 23, 1888. Dr McQuade (my father-in-law) moved in with his wife in January, 1925, and my husband was born here in November, 1925. We moved back in time to celebrate his 60th birthday in 1985 — four doctors in the house in 150 years!

Yours faithfully, JOY MCQUADE, Harcourt, Chertsey, Surrey, May 4.

Further questions

From Mrs Maureen Horne

Sir, I was most interested to read the letter (May 2) from the reader who had identified five different types of question in *Tournament of the Mind*.

I only identified two types: very hard and just plain impossible. Yours, MO HORNE, 27 King Brude Terrace, Inverness, May 2.

THE ARTS

Children and the monsters

While we are still waiting for a comprehensive documentary on the child-abuse industry, *Everyman* (BBC1, yesterday) filled in some of the squares on the board. Subtitled *Monsters and Rainbows*, this was a *verité* report on the only training course available to professionals: the star of the show was a woman therapist demonstrating her proven techniques for collecting evidential material.

There cannot be many viewers who would want to see sexually abused children describing their experiences on camera, even if this were allowable. In their absence, however, we were left to do rather too much imagining of our own. The young have a seemingly

TELEVISION

inexhaustible capacity for pleasing grown-ups and might well massage the truth.

The programme achieved its emotional impact only when the teaching therapist pinned up drawings of abused children's worst fears. One needed to see both the titular monsters and the self-perception or "body image" of those who have been repeatedly invaded by Daddy (or his friends).

The summer season of *Theatre Night* (BBC2) teed off with *The Miser*, a play which invites us to believe that a father's love is commensurate with the liberality of his purse strings. My A-level notes remind me that the piece can be read as tragedy: Michael Simpson's adequate production certainly contained no laughs to speak of. If the eye was held by Nigel Hawthorne's peerless impersonation of Michel Hordern in his more skittish mood, the ear was constantly distracted by the disparity of the period (1840s, apparently chosen for the frocks' Scrooge-factor) and the translation. It was acceptable for the script to sneak in the odd Shakespearean quote, but not to have its epynym threaten to "clobber you one".

Martin Cropper

After opening late last year, when it was reviewed by Irving Wardle, Adrian Noble's production returns to the repertoire with a new cast whose every word can be heard. I am happy to report, except on the one or two occasions when horns or sinister percussion come in too quickly as a scene is ending.

Bob Crowley's set is an empty box, where the walls are seemingly made of vertical planks, and an open-tread stairway intrudes through the rear wall to give access to Duncan's bedroom high up in one corner.

Shifts in the intensity of the lighting temper the severity of the set, and Mark Henderson and Chris Parry, the designers of these effects, judiciously use big, menacing shadows.

Macbeth and his Lady are almost continually lit by follow spots, two of these being directed above the stage, shining through the gauze ceiling and leaving two sharply outlined circles on it.

It is an image which can stand for the self-scrutiny that the two principals embark upon after the first murder. Amanda Root is a young Lady, flutteringly equipped

The Australian playwright

David Williamson has a play and a film opening in London this week.

Questions of greed are raised in both works, Rosalie Horner writes

The playwright David Williamson is one of the sharpest commentators on contemporary Australian life. Today his play *Emerald City* opens at the Lyric, Shaftesbury Avenue, and his film *Travelling North* begins a West End run. Both are mordant comedies of manners which should travel well. Williamson thinks *Emerald City* might be particularly topical for post-Budget Thatcherite Britain.

"Greed has been legitimized now by most of the governments of the Western world, including the Australian Labour government which is doing exactly the same thing," he says. "Greed is now good." He freely admits that the play is taken from life — his own.

It involves a successful couple — Colin is a writer and Kate is in publishing — who leave Melbourne and move to Sydney, Australia's most glamorous city, the Emerald City of Oz. Williamson and his wife Kristin, a journalist, did this in 1979.

It is a play about selling out, the artist compromising his standards for the flashy blandishments of fame, fortune and, as this is set in Sydney, the acquisition of a harbour frontage, the ultimate symbol of the Australian arriviste. "The play is not totally autobiographical, it really isn't," Williams says with an ill-concealed smile. "But I can't deny there is a certain amount of my experience in there and the Australian press caught me out."

"After writing about the dangers of being seduced by harbour-frontages, they caught me sneakily buying one and had great fun with me. I think Woody Allen once said that if a satirist is not the victim of the same impulses he satirizes then it never rings true."

"We old left liberals can't shake ourselves free of guilt. We can't wholeheartedly embrace the new 'greed is good' philosophy."

"There is something in the back of our minds which says 'no, there's more to life than grabbing water-frontages,' even if we



"Greed is now good": David Williamson, the voice of affluent Australia, squares up to moral ambivalence

do it. There are people out there who are starving, living in conditions they shouldn't be living in."

Then how does Williamson, the self-appointed conscience of the affluent Australian middle-classes, square this? "You don't. The play is about ambivalence. The husband and wife are torn by ambivalence."

"The agonies of moral ambivalence, while they are real, are not as real as the problems of someone starving to death in Africa. So I think they have to be treated in a comic mode. You have to see these people as breast-beating and posturing about why they aren't better than they are. A lot of people would find it a problem that wasn't too difficult to handle — having a harbour frontage and feeling guilty about it."

The film *Travelling North* is about being uprooted, mobile in quite a different sense. It is a love story between a man about to retire and a divorced woman with two

married daughters. They travel north to tropical Queensland to find their idea of paradise. Here again Williamson used his own experience. "My wife's mother was married to a very impressive, very irascible old gentleman. They travelled north to find paradise but he was dying of a heart condition, nobody quite knew how long it would take."

"It was the story of him facing death and she facing the responsibility of following that through. It's a journey we all have to face finally and the way they faced it. I thought, was courageous and inspiring. She went with him against the stout opposition of her two daughters, who felt that falling in love at her stage of life with someone like Frank was a very silly thing to do."

Williamson paints in the play a particularly unsympathetic picture of his wife. Did that cause any disharmony in the household? "Oh yes, a bit of friction there," he

laughs. "I must point out that these are fictions and when Frank (Leo McKern) calls the daughters Goneril and Regan, it's for dramatic purposes. I wouldn't be married to my wife if she were as bad as the daughter in the film; she's obviously not."

Generously, he has made the two husbands as odious as their wives. Is one a self-portrait? "Oh yes, I'll plead guilty. There's a very pompous, opinionated husband there that I'll own up to."

These days success takes Williamson increasingly away from home and harbour-frontage in Balmain. He spends a good deal of his time closeted in hotel rooms around the world, his constant companion an IBM word processor and numerous floppy discs. When I spoke to him he was racing against time to complete the British half of his drama-documentary *The Four Minute Mile*, which will be seen on the BBC prior to the Olympic Games.

Scotland, which is not about some dewy-eyed vision of a socialist utopia based on the dignity of labour, and in which the principal players are the women. The material trivia being pursued is set against Vari's desire to have a child and Terry's wife Hilda's sense of loss at never having had one, and against young Susan Vari's grown-up niece, the clever geneticist whose research, into fertility, is seriously under-funded.

Somewhere among all this tragedy, or conscience, or death stalks, a silent unseen (except by the audience) pale-faced figure and eerie noises off betoken imminent disaster. When it comes, at the very end, it's murder, a consequence of greed gone wrong. But the party goes on, still playing *Trivial Pursuit*.

The Lyceum has done McGrath proud with a handsome production and some fine performances, especially from Jennifer Black as Vari and Victoria Hardcastle as Hilda. And you do get the feeling that here is a real writer at work, listening and watching the world around him and reflecting it back. Trouble is the pace of the writing is so leisurely that the three hours it plays feels more like four and what is nearly a terrifically exciting evening, fizzing with ideas on the one hand and crisp one-liners on the other ends up rather dull.

Robert Dawson Scott

Scottish play for today

Trivial Pursuits, Royal Lyceum, Edinburgh

In Scotland the yuppie also rises, but it usually hot-foots it to London where the pickings are richer. Take Vari, in Tom McGrath's big bold new three-act play at Edinburgh's Royal Lyceum, making more money a week at a systems analyst than her parents might have done in a year. Or take Terry the estate agent, a walking cautionary tale of what happens to Club 18-30 holiday-makers when they grow older.

Both these two have acquired English spouses and, McGrath seems to be suggesting, some pretty nasty English habits. For instance, all that Vari needs to know about skiing to decide whether or not it is for her is that it's expensive.

So far so good. McGrath has written a Scottish play very much for today which is not set in a depressed tenement in the west of



Noble's Macbeth and his Lady: Miles Anderson and Amanda Root

piece of work, but pathetic. The "Tomorrow" speech he delivers quickly, sitting down, and even allows himself a hollow laugh: it works exceptionally well.

Noble's intelligent production is packed with incidents which flesh out character and plot. The child, Fleance (ancestor of kings to come), absently occupies the throne when Macbeth advances towards it.

Desmond Barrit's marvellous

Porter brings members of the audience into his act and tells a very funny Knock Knock joke (Duncan who? Duncan disorderly). Finally, there is the tremendous moment when Macbeth's last hiding place is ripped apart by lances piercing the walls of his box and Macduff (Colin McCormack) erupts literally from the ground at his feet. Great stuff.

Jeremy Kingston

CONCERTS

Latter-day Xenakis

LS/Howarth Queen Elizabeth Hall

A typically packed weekend with the London Sinfonietta focused on Xenakis, whose *Warg*, his third piece written for this ensemble, was given a suitably emphatic first performance under Elgar Howarth.

The composer's note revealed only that the title is a possible variant of the Greek *ergon*, a form chosen, surely, for the suggestion of effort in its sound as well as its sense, for this is another essay in the latter-day Xenakis style of rude and strident noises, massive marches of parallel chords, and the heavy machinery of regular pulse. As so often, there is a strong colouring of folk music in the

scales employed, and just occasionally a simple slip of a tune, but for the most part the sound world is huge and elemental to the point of brutality, even though the score requires only a dozen soloists and no percussion.

The programming of Xenakis's previous *Sinfonietta* piece, the more varied *Thalain*, was perhaps inevitable, but the selection of Szymanowski song cycles to precede these works was inspired. Eileen Hulse was brilliant in the fountain-sprays of the *Songs of a Fairy Princess*, as was John Coable at the piano.

There were also two fine-spin diversions from Hungary: Ligeti's *Magical* and *Triple Sextet* by György Orbán. His pleasantly witty exposition of fantastic musical mechanisms probably owes something to the older composer, as does the alarming implication that romantic agonies (for string sextets) may be as efficiently programmed as the tickings and warblings of wind and tuned percussion. But this was a perky piece.

Paul Griffiths

Welcome back, Klaus

LPO/Tennstedt Festival Hall

A programme of Wagner extracts and overtures celebrated the welcome return of Klaus Tennstedt to the South Bank after two years courageously fighting throat cancer. The evening proved the continuing power of both mind and music over matter.

The overture theme was resonant in every sense. First there was *Tannhäuser*, substantial as a symphony, then came *Rienzi*, finally *Die Meistersinger*, a huge upbeat of affirmation, as it were, for Tennstedt's six Festival Hall concerts planned for next season.

The evening was very much an occasion and the London Philharmonic responded with vigorous concentration to their master's every breath. *Tannhäuser* was remarkable for its control of harmonic and dynamic

distance throughout its long thematic procession. *Rienzi* built prayer and battle-song on the same foundations of firm cello and bass contours, stentor-like brass and string playing of unusual buoyancy and grace.

The excerpts from *Götterdämmerung*, including Ziegfried's Journey to the Rhine and Funeral Music, had their inevitable effect: Ziegfried's descent through the magic fire was conjured by playing of true lightness of being, before the groundswell of the Rhine powerfully contained its ebb and flow of motifs.

When it was all over, Tennstedt ran up and down the stairs several times, and then, just when we thought it was safe to leave, he galloped outrageously into an unscheduled *Ride of the Valkyries*. Welcome back.

Hilary Finch

JAZZ

Lost tone

Gil Evans Tribute, Royal Festival Hall

The "End Games" performance by the Gil Evans orchestra, coming two months after his death, was celebratory. The general air of exuberance threatened to turn the evening into an extended blowing contest between the various elements of the brass section. This is, of course, an ever-present danger in live performances of Evans's late work, with its loose orchestrations and borrowings from rock and funk, which if not properly handled, can degenerate into the survival of the loudest.

The risks were evident in the opening number, "La Nevada". On the 1961 studio album *Out Of The Cool*, the piece ebbs and flows from the piano introduction, only slowly building to the horn climax. Last Thursday's truncated version was far harsher, most of the subtlety lost as the players raced to the coda.

The overall tone was less shrill in the two Mings classics "Orange Was The Colour Of Her Dress..." and "Goodbye Pork Pie Hat". George Adams contributed a salty tenor solo to the former, while the elegy to Lester Young was constructed around the yearning also of Chris Hunter.

One of the surprises of the first 45 minutes was the subdued contribution of Hiram Bullock, whose guitar posturings have become all too familiar in recent years. His turn was to come, however, in the over-long work-outs from the Jimi Hendrix and Van Morrison songbooks.

Clive Davis

Dynamite platters to disco

Perhaps the American railroads spoke truer than they knew when they classified the first consignments of gramophone records as dynamite. Did they see a prophetic vision of the reverberating disc? In fact, as we learned from *Revolutions In Sound* (Radio 4, Sundays, repeating Tuesdays, producer Jeff Link), since the emerging record companies could not agree on a classification, the opportunistic carriers imposed one bringing with it the highest freight rate of them all.

Robin Ray's six-part series, which celebrates the centenary of the gramophone, is full of such engaging snippets. (Did you know

RADIO

the HMV dog died some years before his most celebrated public debut? But Ray is working in some weightier topics, including a fascinating suggestion that even the most skilful and, on the face of it, unavoidable tape edit (for example, the correction of a wrong note) subtly affects what you hear, although it is, strictly speaking, inaudible. Edited phrases imperceptibly "change direction" and the performer's intention goes adrift. But what exactly is it that changes and what, if not the ear, perceives it?

Apparently these immaculately recorded performances are often achieved only as a result of one edit every 30 or 40 seconds. How then can they be said to represent an authentic musical event?

I did ask myself at the beginning of *The Best Of Times - The Worst Of Times* (Radio 4, Sundays) whether this way of making a biography could possibly be sustained over seven episodes. Michael Bakewell has compiled a life of Charles Dickens in which its events slip in and out of the author's subsequent treatment of them in his novels, and it is so cleverly done that often the joints are hard to see. But four episodes in I am hooked.

It requires a distinct effort to stay with *The Last Colony In Africa* (Radio 3, Wednesdays, producer, Michael Stevenson). This is one of Michael Charlton's now-familiar explorations of a slice of modern history — in this case the process by which Rhodesia became Zimbabwé — and it is as even a solid and impressive achievement. Here are all the big guns — Smith, Carrington, Mugabe, Nkomo, Kanamata — giving their views of what happened on the way to the Lancaster House settlement. And yet this extraordinarily interesting series is slightly unattractive. Why? Perhaps the reason lies in its magisterial tone, since this repeatedly provokes the disrespectful thought that no sequence of affairs can possibly have been as significant as these are presented.

It was instructive to compare this with, of all things, a Schools Night-time Broadcast I happened to pick up. *Defence and Disarmament* (Tuesday, producer Graham Tavar) also brought together some big guns, Admiral-of-the-Fleet Lord Lewin and Bruce Keast of CND, with Peter Hobbay asking each to say why he supported or opposed a policy of strong defence. It demonstrated unequivocally that neither participant could prove his point. As a bit of indirect teaching this little programme would be hard to beat.

David Wade

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MONDAY PAGE

Adapting to adoption

The supply of babies for adoption is dwindling. How do agencies decide who shall have the precious few? Heather Kirby investigates

If you are a seriously overweight, 36-year-old smoker, the chances of being able to adopt a white healthy baby through an adoption agency are nil. If you are in a relationship rather than a marriage, if you have been married for less than three years or more than 15 and unless you can prove you are infertile, you would probably not be considered either. Trying to adopt a baby is a seller's market unless you are prepared to take on a severely handicapped child, siblings or children who have been physically and sexually abused.

According to Christine Hammond, assistant development director at BAAF (British Agencies for Adoption and Fostering) in 1986 there were 8,000 adoptions but only 1,500 of those were babies under one year. There is a huge gap between supply and demand. The pill, legal abortions and social acceptance of the single parent are the main reasons for the drop in supply and a couple's choice to put off trying for a family until they are older is a major contributory factor for the increasingly desperate demand. The National Association for the Childless says that one in six couples, or two million people, now have problems conceiving.

But now couples who may start out wanting to adopt one of the "easy to place babies" (generally meaning a white healthy baby under two) are no longer prepared to go away empty handed and are taking on hard-to-place children. Reflecting this trend, the Church Adoption Society, which placed 32 children last year and takes applicants within a 30-mile radius of Central London, announced yesterday that it was changing its name to Childlink.

"We are changing our name because of the growing need to



'A career woman would have to prove she wanted to be a parent'

attract people who are not white Anglo-Saxon Protestants," says Sheila Conway, its director. "We are not funded by any church and we want to reflect our non-denominational status."

The situation for couples who are determined to adopt a healthy baby is not all gloom. If you are a practising Catholic your chances are considerably higher than any other single section of the community. Since they comprise only 10 per cent of the population and do not believe in abortion, there are more Catholic babies available to the Catholic couples queuing up.

Most local authorities are adoption agencies and some of the larger ones, such as Hertfordshire, also cater for neighbouring boroughs which cannot place a child within their own boundaries because they may only have a couple of secondary schools and the consensus is for adopted children to grow up well away from siblings. Last year Hertfordshire had 48 easy to place

babies. They carry a permanent waiting list of 40 hopeful couples.

Since all agencies now insist on racial matching, infertile couples who belong to an ethnic minority are more likely to be able to adopt than a white infertile couple simply because they would face less competition. However, Tony Meredith, director of the Catholic Children's Society, admitted that he would break the racial rule in certain circumstances. "I would not be prepared to leave a black infant in a foster home for more than 10 months - but I would have to be convinced we had explored every avenue to find a black family."

Most adoption agencies prefer their babies to have an adopted brother or sister, so a couple who have been lucky once will be guaranteed an addition to their family if they want one. Prospective parents have to take a medical (both smoking and obesity are considered life-threatening, and agencies are not keen to put a child in a position

where they may lose a parent), have a permanent home here, have no criminal record and a reliable job.

A career woman would have to be very sure of her motives because they would be put under a microscope, says Ruth Lawn, home finding project leader at NCH, a Methodist organization. "Some agencies would be very suspicious that a baby was just another status symbol. And although I do not subscribe to the view myself that a woman has to give up her career, she would have to prove she wanted to be a parent and was not giving over the job to a nanny 20 hours of the day."

Agencies prefer parents to be 35 or under, fearing that anyone older may not be able to cope with a teenager. They also have to be warm, show strong motivation, be realistic about the possible difficulties such as protracted legal proceedings if the baby has been made a ward of court, or lack of knowledge about the father. Being intellectual or a high

achiever may be a hindrance. Lawn explains: "If the child is going to grow up not very bright in a family where educational attainment is important this child might not live up to their expectations."

It costs approximately £4,500 to assess prospective parents and takes nine months (Conway has identified 43 steps in the process from application to adoption), a deliberately contrived timescale. It is against the law to pay an adoption society money although, since the voluntary ones are charities, they are grateful for donations.

While Hammond admits the testing of parents for perfect babies can be idiosyncratic, when it comes to adopting hard to place categories of children the outlook is completely different. Single men or women, cohabiting couples, older people, the unconventional, are welcomed with open arms. Single parents are sometimes preferable because they have no competing demands on their affection, unconventional people because they would not care about being stared at, older people for their general experience.

Twelve years ago it was very unusual for a family to adopt a baby with Down's Syndrome. But now, according to Philip Stogdon, a social worker with Parents for Children, they rarely get a Down's Syndrome baby - "and if we did we would have 10 families to choose from", he says. "We can find placements for children with cerebral palsy, epilepsy, for spastic quadriplegics or blind children so long as they are under five."

Age is the biggest handicap. "Children over 12 are very hard to place," says Carol Lindsay Smith, new family project leader at Dr Barnardo's in Colchester, which launched the first shop window for hard to place children. "Sometimes infertile couples can be persuaded to take children of an age their own would be if they had had them at the same time as their friends."

A sudden conversion to Catholicism or an unaccountable move to Hertfordshire would be greeted with some scepticism. But if you are determined to acquire a baby, it is worth writing to several voluntary agencies as well as your local social services department and discussing your needs with the people involved in placements. Many infertile couples find their original dream is unattainable only to discover an even more fulfilling alternative.

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Adopting a Child (BAAF, £2) from 11 Southwark Street, London SE1 1RQ.



Helen Boehm with the bear and bald eagle created for the American Boehm Porcelain Exhibition in Moscow

Propaganda as art form

Why Helen Boehm thinks her pieces of porcelain encourage world peace

Mikhail and Raisa Gorbachov returned from their recent trip to Washington with a large gold and silver globe encircled by flying doves. And when Ronald Reagan goes to the Soviet Union for the summit at the end of this month he will be bearing more gifts of American Boehm porcelain.

A Boehm American eagle found its way to the Hermitage museum and a brown bear was presented to the children of the Soviet Union following an exhibition in Moscow last year.

A video tape for the Boehm (pronounced "beam") company suggests the porcelain sculptures are "a communion of nature and art, a way to bridge the geographical and ideological barriers that separate us..."

It may not be to everybody's taste (one uncharitable observer commented that it looked the sort of thing that might provoke the Gorbachovs to panic: "Quick, the Reagans are coming - get out the Boehm") but it is undoubtedly spectacular.

Helen Boehm, the founder's widow and since 1969 chairman and art director, breezed off Concord and into Garrard's over the weekend to inspect an exhibition which runs from today until Saturday and at which she will be signing pieces.

In the glass cases the stuff of *glamour* was reverently arranged. She bustled around, altering the angle of a falcon, the hindlegs of a gazelle, the way the light glinted on the petals of an iris - greeting every piece like a long lost friend.

Mrs Boehm never tires of telling her rags-to-riches story, or stops pinching herself at how a poor Italian immigrant girl from Brooklyn came to rub shoulders with world rulers and royalty.

She began married life in her mother's humble house and sewed her own clothes. She now boasts luxurious residences in New Jersey, New York - in the ultra-chic Pierre Hotel - and Palm Beach, and frequents couture

salons. She stays at the Connaught when visiting her studios in Malvern, where the Prince of Wales once tried his hand at painting a baby seal.

She breeds horses, collects art and vintage cars and bought a polo team which "trounced" a team including the Prince of Wales to carry off the Queen's Cup for America. It was Mrs Boehm who hosted the polo balls which were a high spot of the Duke and Duchess of York's trip to the US.

At Garrard, she suddenly suggested: "We could do with two or three live lovebirds in the centre. Could we manage that?" The staff looked aghast. Mrs Boehm, mistress of the Thatcheresque technique of not pausing for breath, went on to describe how five rare birds escaped into the Manhattan sky on their way to a promotion at Tiffany & Co many years ago.

Such schemes may sound silly, but it was only her flair for publicity, propaganda - call it what you will - that turned her husband's craftsmanship into an internationally acclaimed art form.

Edward Marshall Boehm had the skill to capture the wildlife he loved in the finest, hard-paste porcelain, developing an ingenious system of removable supports to allow an unprecedented freedom of movement. Without his wife's promotional instincts they might have gone no further than the Boehm mantelpiece.

She has an unerring eye for an opportunity. When Prince William was born she presented him with a model of the recently-raised Mary Rose. Prince Henry's birth was marked by two little rabbits, since she had heard that his nursery had a bunny theme.

Her one sorrow is that she never had children, who might have created a Boehm dynasty. The company's current president is Frank Cosentino. For all her strength, Mrs Boehm says she likes a man to look up to.

Victoria McKee

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I am feeling very sorry for Americans right now. There they are peacefully carrying on with their quiet old fashioned practices. Ye Election of the President, Ye Hollywood Bowl, while with hardly a moment's warning, their old traditional industries are being taken over by brash, beefy British conglomerates.

I am thinking particularly of my favourite American clothes shop, Brooks Brothers, recently taken over by that menace of the British high street, Marks & Spencer. How often have I taken flight from the desperate hurly burly of London life for the comparative quiet of New York and, in particular, the courtesy and decorum of Brooks Brothers, where gravely attentive shop assistants will spend hours helping you select a shirt from their excellent selection of cotton twills. At Brooks Brothers you may make a purchase for a pygmy gorilla because their shirts come in so many sleeve lengths that there is not a manly arm that could not be decently clothed.

Better still, gentlemen's suits hang on the rails with the trouser ends and jacket cuffs unfinished so that, having bought one, a man can then have it fitted to his exact requirements. And all this is cheerfully and efficiently undertaken in elegant surroundings where the lifts hum soothingly between the different floors and the merchandise is displayed in

Brash cash

PENNY PERRICK

handsome glass show cases.

Brooks Brothers belongs to a world that has vanished from our own side of the Atlantic and I dread to think what will happen to it if, as Lord Rayner, the chairman of Marks & Spencer, has threatened, Brooks Brothers departments will be placed inside M & S's prime stores.

Will the Brooks Brothers philosophy of service with a smile give way to the M & S staff habit of non-co-operation with a scowl? There cannot be a British woman alive who has not had her head bitten off by one of M & S's special brand of vacant-eyed shop assistants just because she had the temerity to ask where she might find the knickers that match the bra she has just bought. One shouldn't be too hard on these assistants, I suppose. If I had to wear the repulsive M & S uniform of off-white Crimplene with a nasty all-over red and blue

motif, I should find it difficult to say, "May I help you, madam?" with any degree of sincerity.

And yet I hate to see our tough, abrasive British way of life devour the gentler American one. There is a story by Mary McCarthy called *The Man in the Brooks Brothers Shirt* in which the well-shirted man gives the heroine "that sense of ritualistic rightness that the Best People are supposed to bask in".

His shirt, which carries an intriguing emblem, features quite a lot in the story. He explained: "I get these shirts at Brooks Brothers. They'll put the emblem on free if you order the shirts custom-made. I always order a dozen at a time. I get everything at Brooks Brothers except ties and shoes."

Although they have just met on a train, the heroine finds herself going to bed with him as they speed across America during the night. The man, who looks as if he has "been put together by a good tailor", is the embodiment of romantic ardour and what would now be called Victorian values.

Much as I like Brooks Brothers shirts, I will not claim that the wearer of one possesses the power to make strange women fall into his arms during overnight train journeys. But I am perfectly sure that Mary McCarthy could never have written of a romantic encounter had she called her story *The Man in The Marks & Spencer Sweater*.



Judge Dalia Dorner: 'I hate capital punishment... in principle, you understand'

A fine judgment?

Judges, quite rightly, usually resist approaches from journalists, and it seemed a token of Dalia Dorner's perspective as much as of her unconventional ally that, in April 1987 when the three Israeli judges in the "Ivan the Terrible" trial were in Berlin to attend the questioning of one of the prosecution's most important witnesses, she did not reject out of hand my suggestion of a conversation once the Demjanjuk case was over.

Dalia Dorner, now aged 54 and considered one of the sharpest legal minds in Israel, has been a judge for 15 years, the last four in the district court in Jerusalem. It was the president of that court who, two years ago, asked her to participate in the Demjanjuk trial. "I thought about it for a long time and finally decided that it would be a unique case and I had to do it," she said. "Of course, no one could have known that it would take as long as it did - much too long."

It was in the 109th session of the State of Israel v Ivan (John) Demjanjuk, on April 25, after 14 months of hearings and deliberations, that Judge Dorner and Dov Levin heard their fellow judge, Zvi Tal, a gentle, deeply religious man, read out the death sentence upon which, although it was not mandatory, they had unanimously agreed. Two days later, Judge Dorner and I sat in her sun-splashed Jerusalem flat, skirting around the one thing that was on both our minds. "I hate capital punishment..." she burst out at one point, adding at once, as she had to, "in principle, you understand. I couldn't be a judge if it was a normal part of our judicial system."

She had not thought the case would last very long. "The Eichmann case took six months, and I thought that if that 'big' criminal could be

Dalia Dorner is one of the judges who sentenced John Demjanjuk to death. She tells Gitta Sereny why she took on a "unique" case

dealt with in six months then this one would be over in four. "But it was a very, very difficult case," she conceded. "Usually I just stay in my office during the midday break, but in this case I went home - I needed to be quiet, and alone."

Awareness of injustice had entered Dalia Dorner's life early, in her native Turkey. In 1943, when the Turks thought the Germans would still win the war, her Russian father, a successful merchant, and many other Jews, Greeks and Armenians, were suddenly charged with enormous fake tax debts and sent to prison. Released the next year, he decided the family must go to Israel. But his health had suffered in prison, and he died a few months after their arrival there. In 1944, she and her younger brother were sent to a children's home, returning to live with their mother when Dorner was 14. Going to school in the mornings, she would tutor younger children every afternoon and "made enough for us to live on".

She met her husband, a fellow law student, at university, and married in 1958; the eldest of their two sons is now studying law. Wherever she and her husband go on holiday, "we go to the courts, to sit in on trials".

A lot of people wondered whether a jury would have looked differently at the Demjanjuk case. Judge Dorner says she cannot answer that question. "But speaking generally, we have no jury trials in Israel. The British decided - rightly, I happen to think - on our system. I consider a judge writing a decision, which can then be appealed, safer than a jury. But, anyway, in tiny Israel, where everyone knows everybody else, the jury system would be impossible."

A jury, she said, will always be aware of audience reactions and may be influenced by them. Judges ignore them, unless they interfere with the conduct of the trial.

Perhaps this disciplined separation from the public led Demjanjuk's judges to believe that their sentence would provoke the same reaction as Eichmann's death sentence, after which the audience filed out in dignified silence. I had been told by someone close to the court that they had been appalled by the applause and the demonstrations which greeted Demjanjuk's sentence.

I was glad to tell Judge Dorner that several of us had counted the actual demonstrators among the 500-strong audience. Contrary to reports, there had been only six old men, survivors whose emotions could be forgiven, plus 20 young extremists - nationalists, we were told - who burst into a carefully orchestrated demonstration of cheers and songs. This was what the TV cameras had focused on, and what was seen on screens around the world that night, rather than the rest of that audience, some of whom cried, and most of whom silently left the hall.

"You are right. We didn't know that," she said. "I'll tell Zvi Tal he'll be as glad to hear it as I am. Thank you."

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The Engineering Assembly

The 1988 elections to the Engineering Assembly have been held in six of the 19 Regions, and have been conducted by the Electoral Reform Society on behalf of The Engineering Council. The electorate comprises those registered with The Engineering Council as Chartered Engineers (CEng), Technician Engineers (TEng) and Engineering Technicians (EngTech), and with registered addresses in the Regions concerned.

The declaration of results is as follows:

Region	CEng	TEng	EngTech
Region 1 East of England	P. J. HARRIS J. J. FRANK J. J. HENDERSON V. WILSON	M. J. TUTTILL J. STRANGE	
Region 2 East of England	A. A. COOK P. J. LAUDER A. M. ARTHUR M. W. WILLIAMS	R. J. GILLILLAN J. Mc ANN	
Region 3 North West	L. ABRAM D. S. LARKE R. M. SYMS R. J. WOLGAR	N. BROOKES D. T. D. COOPER	
Region 4 Yorkshire	R. CORRIHAN P. G. CRANSTON D. MORLEY E. R. STEVENS	G. FIRTH D. HUTCHINSON	
Region 5 Northern Ireland	W. J. F. O'NEILL W. J. O'NEILL J. J. O'NEILL	J. R. SKENE W. R. GORDON	

For information, the 1988 Engineering Assembly takes place on July 18th-20th at The Queen's University of Belfast.

Signed L. W. L. Chelton, Secretary

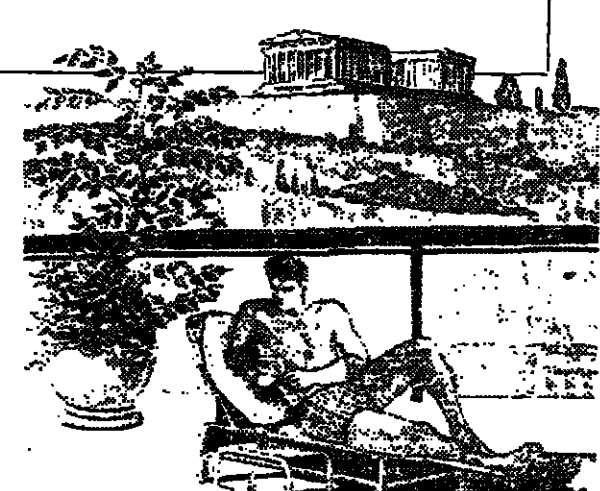
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Compiled by Peter Dear

VARIATIONS

[illegible]

er House of Horror 12:35am
ase.

[illegible]

TELEVISION CHOICE

killer of two young girls in Westchester, but he may have betrayed himself in one case. Another sort of profiling is psychological, building up the identity of the killer from his personality traits. Young Susie Jaeger was abducted while on a camping holiday with her mother in Montana. A year later the kidnapper rang the mother and cruelly raised her hopes by assuring her that Susie, who had been killed immediately, was still alive. The police say it was not so much the voice, as the mother's sadistic smile, that led to his apprehension. But *Horizon* has to admit that neither computers, nor genetics nor even psychological identikitists have so far revealed the killer of 10-year-old Sarah Harper, whose case goes back to 1986 and may be linked with two previous abductions.

RADIO CHOICE



Christian Rodska: a defiant, radical man (R4, 8.15pm)

Peter Davalle

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RADIO 1

SNW (medium wave). Stereo on **VHF** (see below).
News on the half-hour from 5.30pm, then at 10.00 and 12.00 midday, then at 5.30. **Adrian John** 7.00 **Mike Smith's Breakfast Show** 9.30 **Simon Bates** 12.30 **Newsbeat** (Frank Partridge) 12.45 **Gary Davies** 3.00 **Steve Wright** 5.30 **Newsbeat** 5.45 **Bruno Brookes** 7.30 **The Evening Show** 10.00-12.00 **John Peel** **VHF** **Stereo Radios** 1 and 2-
Radio 1 12.00-2.00pm **As Radio 1** 12.00-4.00pm **As Radio 2**

Radio 2

NEWS (medium wave)
News on the hour
6:00 Steve Mackinnon **5:30** Chris Stuart **7:30** Derek Jamerson **8:30** Ken Bruce **11:00** Jimmy Young **1:05** David Jacobs **2:05** Gloria Hunniford **3:30** Adrian Love **5:05** John Dunn **7:00** Alan Dell with Dance Band Days and Big Band Era **8:30** Big Band Special **9:00** Jim Galloway **10:00** The Cleeve Dick-Aston **10:30** The Monday Night Jazz **11:00** Frank Dancette presents Round Midnight **11:00** Patrick Lunt presents Nightride **3:00-4:00** A Little Night Music

WORLD SERVICE

[illegible]

Radio 3

1.00 News
1.05 BBC Lunchtime Concert:
Live from St John's, Smith
Square, London. Murray
Peltz (piano) plays
Mozart's Fantasia in C
minor (K 475), and Sonata in
C minor (K 457);
Beethoven's Sonata in E
flat, Op 81a (Les Adieux);
and Chopin's Ballade No 3
in A flat
2.00 Music Weekly: Christopher
Field examines Hermann
Goedsch's reputation; and
Alfred Blyth reviews Victor
Ramsdell's biography of the

2.43 Russian bass Chaliapin (r)
Kerajan Conducts the
Philharmonic: Mozart's
Symphony No 39 in E flat (K
543); Brahms's Symphony
No 1 in C minor; and
Ravel's *Rapsodie espagnole*
4.15 Hans Gal's Quartets:
Introduced by Hugh
Macdonald. Alberti String
Quartet play Mozart's
Adagio and Fugue in C minor
(K 546); and Gal's String
Quartet No 4
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure:
Presented by Roger Nichols
6.30 Music for Organ: Nicholas
Danby plays pieces by
Gabriel, Zipoli, Luchesi,
Pasquini and Bossi. From
County Wicklow

7.05 **News**
7.30 **Ear in Glasgow:** In conjunction with Glasgow's Mayfest on which starts this evening, critic Colin Murray looks at the city's visual arts renaissance

7.30 **EBU 25th Anniversary Special** (part one) Live from the Concertgebouw, Haarlem. The Netherlands Radio Symphony Orchestra under Lurmet play Messiaen's *Hymne au Saint Esprit*; and Tondra's *Reverberances*

8.20 **1688 - Made in Holland:** Fred Bachrach, Professor of English, University of Leiden, reflects on the impact the 1688 Glorious Revolution had on his country

8.40 **EBU Concert (part two):** Chabouss's *Symphony in B flat*

9.20 **Mavis Sweeney - Cry:** A musical opportunity for 28 amplified voices performed by the BBC Singers under John Peel

10.40 **Short Stories:** Mother by Judith Watran. Read by Denise Liu

11.00 **Excerpts from the West:** Karl Goldmark (1874-1915). Excerpts from the *Queen of Sheba*; an orchestral scherzo; and the *Rustic Wedding Song*

12.40 **News** **12.45** **Closing**

Radio 4

LW (long wave) (S) Stereo on
VHF

5.55 Shipping Forecast **6.00**
News Briefing: Weather
6.10 Farming: Day **6.25**
Prayer for the Day (S)

6.30 Today, incl **6.30, 7.30,**
8.30 News Summary **6.45**
Business News **6.55, 7.55**
Weather **7.00, 8.00** News
7.25, 8.25 Sport **7.45**
Thought for the Day

8.35 The Week on 4: Eugene
Fraser previews the week's
broadcasting

8.42 Phil Harris with recordings
from the BBC studio

9.00 **News**
9.05 **Start The Week:** With Melvyn Bragg, whose guests are Hugh Casson, Michael Foot, Margaret Drabble and Ludovic Kennedy
10.00 **News; Money Box:** Presented by Louise Botting, includes items on the General Social Security Act, BUPA's low-cost health scheme, a comparison of house prices in the north and south, and a round-up of building society rates (r)
10.30 **Morning Story:** Percy Wordsworth's Synopsis by Michael Wherry. Read by Tim McInnerny

.00 Daily Service from the
St. Ignace Parish Festival
1.00 News: Travel: Down Your
Way: Stephen Hill visits
with Adam and Eve to
discover why it still suffers
with an image problem (?)
1.50 Poetry Pledge: Presented
by Dean Street
readers Denys Hawthorne
and Bonnie Hurten (S)
2.00 Books: You and Yours: with
Susan R.
2.25 Brian Smith 1988:
Robert Robinson chairs the
Canadian general election
knowledge quiz, with first-
round contestants from the
Midlands and East Anglia (S)
1.00 The World at One:
Presented by Brian
Widdows
1.40 Merchants 7.55 Shipping
Forecast
News; Woman's Hour:
Includes an item on the
relating of perfume to
involving scent – from
perfumes to toilet cleaners,
and marking the 43rd
anniversary of the
liberation from the
Germans, the reminiscences
of two women who were
evacuated from the Channel

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 105.8kHz/2
Radio 2: 693kHz/433m/90.3fm;
Radio 3: 1549kHz/101.7fm;
VHF-50 92.5, Capital: 1.95kHz/
101.7fm; VHF-97.3, Capital: 1549kHz/101.7fm

Islands. Also part five of the serial *All the Best, Kim*, written and read by Carole Hayman

3.00 News: The Lonely Margins: Play by Ted Aliboury. With Christian Rodska and Kim Thomson (s) (r)

4.30 Kaleidoscope: John Baxter meets some of the authors camped out for Adelaide's Writers Week, Australia's oldest literary festival (r)

5.00 PM: Presented by Valerie Singleton and Gordon Cummins

5.50 Shipping Forecast

6.00 5.55 Weather

6.00 News; Financial Report
6.30 The News Quiz: Barry Took hosts the humorous quiz based on the week's news with Ian Hislop, Alan Coren and Richard Ingrams (s) (r)
7.00 News
7.05 The Archers
7.20 The Food Programme: Presented by Derek Cooper reports on traditional and historical food—authentic and otherwise (r)
7.45 Science on 4: With Peter Evans (r)
8.15 Where Did I Go Right?: Play by Corder Haydn Evans (s) (see Choices)
9.30 The Only Pretty Ring Rime: Peter Francis observes the bizarre folk rituals which

mark the coming of Spring
9.45 Kaleidoscope: Reviews of
Cigarettes, a book by Harry
Markham. *The Fantastic Story*
at the Witcher Theatre. The
film *On the Black Hill*,
starring Bob Peck and
Candice Bergen. The new
D'Oyly Carte productions of
Tolaine and *Yeoman of the*
Guard.

10.15 *At the Bedtime:*
Slaughterhouse Five by Kurt
Vonnegut. Read by Bob
Sherman (1 of 10) 10.29
World.

10.30 *The World Tonight*
11.15 *The Financial World Tonight*
1.30 *World News*
2.00 *News 12.20 Weather*
12.23 Shipping Forecast
1.30 *News* as above except 1.00.25
12.00 *World News*
1.00 *Understanding Science Extra 11.00am*
1.55 *The Movel 11.40 The Music Box*
1.55 *World News* except 1.55-
1.59 *am For Schools*
1.59 *am For Schools*
Listening Corner 2.05 *Playtime*
2.20 *Science Scope 2.40*
Whinnigan 3.40-3.55 PM (Cont'd)
1.26 *World News*
1.00 *Open Forum 11.00am* The Geneva
episode 12.10 *am Music Intimate*
2.30-1.10 *Schools Night Time*

35m: 103KHz 272mVHF 98-90.2
VHF 98.5-98.75 1215KHz
1515mVHF 98.95 LBC 1152KHz;
10mVHF 98.95 Radio London:

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1099kHz/275m; VHF-88-90.2.
Radio 2: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; VHF-88-90.2. Radio 3: 1215kHz/
17m; VHF-90-92.5. Radio 4: 198kHz/1515m; VHF-92-95. LBC: 1152kHz/
31m; VHF 97.3. Capital: 1548kHz/194m; VHF95.8. BBC Radio London:

Strikers defy ultimatum in Gdansk

From Richard Bassett, Gdansk

Negotiations between the management of the besieged Lenin Shipyard and the Solidarity Strike Committee broke down last night after the management withdrew an earlier wage offer of 15,000 zlotys a month (£25) and delivered an ultimatum to the strikers to abandon the yard by 6 pm local time.

As the deadline passed, there was no sign of any of the 800 strikers leaving the shipyard. From within the shipyard, sources close to the leader of the banned Solidarity movement, Mr Lech Walesa, said that the strike committee was still in contact with the authorities.

It appeared that there was still communication between the Ministry of the Interior, in particular the ministry's head, General Czeslaw Kiszczak, and members of the strike committee. But Warsaw Radio last night accused the strikers in an unusually bitter attack of "showing no response so far to the goodwill of the authorities".

In a statement issued by the official news agency, the strikers were warned that if they did not leave the shipyard they could not be guaranteed immunity from the legal consequences. However, if they did leave, they would not be detained or dismissed from their jobs, although the future of their employment would depend on the solvency of the shipyard.

Mr Piotr Konopka, an aide to Mr Walesa who spoke from a church near the yard, said the negotiations yesterday lasted only one hour and management's hard line stood in sharp contrast to talks Saturday the union considered "a big step forward".

The leading Polish dissident, Mr Adam Michnik, said: "It's a withdrawal (of previous promises) and a return to blackmail and ultimatum."

"Today's meeting of the strike committee with management representatives showed a lack of desire to end the strike with a method of mutual concession," said a statement issued by the strike committee chairman, Mr Alojzy Szablewski.

"The strike committee reiterated the goodwill of strikers, who are striving for a peaceful end to the strike. (This) was met with an arrogant attitude on the part of the authorities, who rejected dialogue," it said. "We appeal to the authorities for honest talks and confirm our readiness to sign an agreement."

Mr Michnik said that he expected that the authorities would take the shipyard by storm. He defended the strike committee which he said has repeatedly called for more talks. He also appealed to fellow shipyard workers, saying that they should all help defend what has become a symbol in Poland of defiance.

By 8 pm local time the shipyard remained sealed off from the rest of Gdansk, surrounded by 4,000 militiamen.

Union broadcast-Solidarity managed to get Mr Walesa's voice on national television for a few minutes during a regular program on Saturday evening, saying the Gdansk strikers continued to insist on re-establishment of the worker movement (AFP reports). His voice was audible particularly in the Gdansk area.

Continued on page 8

Teachers' strike threat condemned

Continued from page 1

of its kind aimed directly at examinations.

But members will also be told to refuse to invigilate at examinations, forcing schools to find replacement invigilators among staff who belong to other unions.

Most NAS/UNT members are in secondary schools and the union, the only one to have a majority of men, is known as the most strident of the six teachers' organizations.

Mr Baker said on hearing of the decision: "To call such action moral is preposterous. I trust that ordinary teachers will reject such a futile gesture."

Mr James Hammond, general secretary of the National Confederation of Parent-Teacher Associations, said: "This is very disappointing news. Parents who have children going through GCSE have had frustrations enough. I don't see what the NAS hopes to gain. They are not going to get much sympathy from parents."

The National Union of Teachers, the largest union,

will almost certainly not give the strike plan any open support and the NUT president, Mr Malcolm Horne, criticized the NAS/UNT for "going it alone" when the NUT is trying to encourage a co-ordinated union line on pay.

He added sardonically: "If the NAS can persuade us that a strike in the middle of exams will make the Government double our pay offer then I have no doubt we will go along with it."

Mr Peter Smith, general secretary of the moderate Assistant Masters and Mistresses' Association, which has taken the NAS/UNT's place as the second largest union, said: "I just don't know on what basis the NAS/UNT could decide on industrial action timed in such a way. They are setting up a conflict between teachers' high commitment and low morale."

Mr Smith said that the Government's teachers' pay advisory committee had said that the £300 million set aside for pay this year was inadequate.



Former members of cavalry regiments saluting the cavalry memorial in Hyde Park, London, yesterday morning at the "Old Comrades" Memorial Service, on the occasion of the 64th anniversary of the unveiling and dedication of the memorial. A wreath was laid during the service. The salute was taken by the Duke of Kent. (Photograph: Julian Herbert)

The ferry dispute

Police evict ship sit-in seamen

By John Spicer, Employment Affairs Correspondent

Police moved in at Peterhead and Aberdeen to evict NUS members from three oil rig supply vessels owned by the Maersk shipping company yesterday.

They escorted seamen, believed to have been flown in to take over the ships, the Maersk Server, the Maersk River and the Maersk Supporter.

The company had obtained writs at the High Court in Edinburgh on Saturday against the group of NUS members who had been sitting in on the vessels for a week.

Faced with the eviction orders, which alleged trespass aboard the vessels, the NUS members left peacefully.

Mr Steve Todd, a member of the NUS Aberdeen strike committee, explained: "The

lads had been aboard for a week as part of support for the Dover ferry men. We realised the company intended to bring in foreign nationals and we understood they were flown in from Rotterdam and Portugal. We had no intention of breaking the law, so once the police arrived we left the ships peacefully."

"The dock staff have refused to supply them, so they sailed away to an unknown destination — we assume to the Continent somewhere."

Mr Todd said two of the vessels were at Peterhead when the evictions took place, and one at Aberdeen. He said the police were accompanied by about six Messengers at Arms (court officials) to see that the wishes of the High Court were carried out.

Sixteen men and one woman, all members of the NUS, who staged a week's sit-in aboard the P & O ferry Viking Venture at Falmouth dock, Cornwall, walked off the ship yesterday.

Their decision followed a phone call from the NUS leader, Mr Sam McCuskie, in which he said: "Don't crucify yourselves — come back". Before the call the crew members had voted to stay put.

The 17 had been without food, water, cooking or toilet facilities for the week aboard. They left clutching bundles of personal belongings watched by ship's officers and were taken to their homes in Portsmouth in a coach chartered by their employer, P & O.

They had refused an invitation by the Viking Venture's

master, Captain Tony Shorland, to sail in the ship to Portsmouth. The ferry had just undergone a refit and was due to leave Falmouth last night, or possibly this morning.

Mr Brian Hyslop, the ship's NUS convenor, said the crew members would be attending a mass meeting at Falmouth and would be trying to persuade people who had voted to resume work to return to strike action. He said the ballot was illegal because names and addresses had been asked for, therefore it was not secret.

He said the crew was not leaving the Viking Venture with a sense of defeat. "We wish to stay within the law and our protest in Falmouth has been well and truly made."

NUS seeks Sealink aid in P&O fight

Continued from page 1

Mr Robert Adley, MP, vice-chairman of the Conservative's transport committee, last night blamed the attitudes of both men for the problem and took the side of the NUS.

He said it was time the Government stepped in to solve the dispute.

Mr Adley said: "We have here a couple of aggressive, intransigent employers."

"The country cannot afford this kind of long-running dispute during the five years before the tunnel opens. The country's exports, not to mention the holidays of thousands of people, are being threat-

ened. Norman Fowler, the Employment Secretary, should start to take an interest in what is going on."

"One of the difficulties we have in this dispute is that Mr Sherwood's top priority is duffing Sir Jeffrey Sterling in the eye. The wider British interest in this matter should surmount that sort of thing."

Mr Adley said he thought the NUS had been badly treated by P&O. He was convinced that P&O could have negotiated over a longer period to get agreement on staff levels and working practices.

Yesterday, Mr Sherwood was in Paris chairing a board

meeting of Sea Containers, the group parent company. Sir Jeffrey was not available for comment.

P&O officials were able to announce several successes during the day, which came as a blow to the NUS in its fight to continue the dispute.

Union members aboard the company's flagship, Canberra, have decided not to support the NUS, unless a national ballot on strike action is held. The ship is scheduled to leave on a ten-day cruise of the Atlantic islands early tomorrow and seamen aboard say they will do nothing to stop it.

Ferry sailings from Portsmouth to Cherbourg and Le

Havre were almost back on schedule following a mass meeting of NUS members aboard two P&O vessels on Saturday in which 236 out of 253 voted to resume normal working.

P&O published an official timetable for the first time in three months for sailings on the Dover to Zeebrugge service. The company said it was operating four daily sailings in the past week and that during the past week two vessels had completed 27 round trips.

There were slight delays to passenger traffic from Dover over the weekend, but lorry drivers were having to wait up to 20 hours for the crossing to Calais.

Gibraltar team to see new witnesses

Continued from page 1

destination. The next thing they knew all hell broke loose.

"Bullets were flying everywhere and the man suddenly found how close he had come to death when he felt a burning pain in his stomach. When he pulled open his shirt he saw a round hole that could only have come from a rocket bullet in the middle of his stomach."

"We were more concerned about this wound than about what had taken place but I do recall clearly being told that the man had heard nothing about a demand to surrender or seen anyone holding up their hands before the shooting started. Both he and his wife were clearly shaken by what had occurred."

"Everything seemed to happen at once and while he was

clutching his stomach wound the man told us he looked up and saw police arriving from every direction. The next thing he spotted were two bodies lying on the ground covered by blankets."

Having seen that the police were already at the scene, the holidaymaker thought there was no reason for him to report the incident.

The publican said: "I certainly do not remember anything he said which would have supported later claims that the IRA men were about to surrender when they were murdered in cold blood."

Two other members of the same travel party are among those who will be interviewed in Britain by Gibraltar police officers. The fourth new witness is another holidaymaker who wrote to the Gibraltar authorities

Maze fugitive 'seen in bar before shootings'

From Richard Owen, The Hague

As Dutch police widened their search for the killers of three British airmen last week, evidence emerged at the weekend pointing to the involvement of Anthony McAlister, a wanted IRA man.

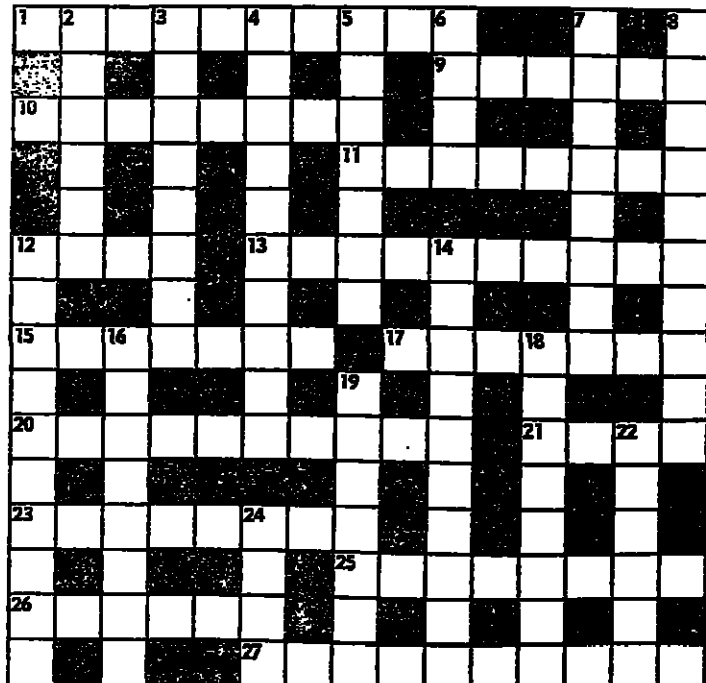
McAlister escaped from the Maze Prison in Ulster in 1983 and is believed to have been in hiding in the Netherlands ever since.

Residents of Roermond, on the Dutch-German border, where one airman was killed and two were injured in a shooting incident, have told the police that they saw a man

resembling McAlister in a bar in the town the day before the shootings. They said he had been sitting alone in the bar on Friday, April 29, the day before the three airmen arrived in Roermond.

Dutch policeworking with their British and West German counterparts have established that the Nieuw Bergen disco bomb, which killed two airmen and injured one, was an IRA device, and that a bomb found under a car at the British Army base at Bielefeld, West Germany, was of a similar type.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 17,664



- ACROSS**
- Husky, say, might achieve this rate of work (10).
 - Decey a couple of students into a river (6).
 - Speaks imperfectly, but somehow masters opening of "Macbeth" (8).
 - Fellow involved in robbery is out for pleasure (8).
 - Surrender the church keys (4).
 - Learn the technique that can make us all Cowards? (10).
 - The trick in amateur circles is using few words (7).
 - The aardvark is unable to endure being beheaded (3-4).
 - Its huge trunk an impediment to an actor? (6-4).
 - Appear indistinctly as part of an act (4).
 - Coin used in card game (8).
 - Amount of power required to walk it, perhaps (8).
 - A body of examiners possibly at sea (6).
 - Nevis's plant? (10).
- DOWN**
- Baronet falls in river? How stupid (6).
 - One of a Mexican's overheads, it may be felt (8).
 - Page about choice of words used in prophecy (10).
 - The president's loss of weight is standing up to examination (7).
 - Smuggled diamonds to get foreign currency (4).
 - Formal interview sought by players (8).
 - He's found, aptly enough, in the musician's kitchen (10).
 - An old one (10).
 - Novel recalled in a fairy-tale (10).
 - Splendid, when he fights for the cause (8).
 - Roared out that Acton, say, was in debt (8).
 - Useful hint from a Pickwickian (7).
 - Brutus, for one, raised thanks when surrounded by gold (6).
 - Poems come old Scandinavians, composed daily (4).

Concise crossword, page 12

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

- MINUEND**
- A number
 - A dance in triple measure
 - A short, squat woman
- SIPPET**
- A fur border
 - A breed of whippet
 - Toast for dunking
- MOLL-BUZZER**
- A mugger of women
 - A female depilatory
 - The Vespa crabro
- AUBAINE**
- A call to bath
 - Venetian red hair
 - Disposal of property

Answers on page 20, column 1

The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 17,663 will appear next Saturday

WEATHER

East and south-east England will begin cloudy with further outbreaks of thundery rain, with some sunny intervals developing during the afternoon. The rest of England and Wales will be mostly dry. Scotland and Northern Ireland will be mostly dry with sunny periods and light winds. Outlook: Sunny periods and scattered showers.

ABROAD

	C	F	S	M	C	F	S	M
Algeria	23	73	S	18	66	F	1	1
Amman	27	81	F	18	66	F	1	1
Antananarivo	18	64	C	18	66	F	1	1
Algiers	23	73	S	18	66	F	1	1
Bahia	31	88	S	21	70	F	1	1
Belgrade	19	66	S	18	66	F	1	1
Bombay	27	81	F	18	66	F	1	1
Buenos Aires	17	63	C	18	66	F	1	1
Brussels	21	70	C	18	66	F	1	1
Cairo	18	64	C	18	66	F	1	1
Cape Town	25	77	F	18	66	F	1	1
Cebu	24	75	F	18	66	F	1	1
Chennai	15	59	F	18	66	F	1	1
Columbia	15	59	F	18	66	F	1	1
Dublin	14	57	C	18	66	F	1	1
Durham	14	57	C	18	66	F	1	1
Edinburgh	25	77	F	18	66	F	1	1
Florence	25	77	F	18	66	F	1	1
Frankfurt	19	66	C	18	66	F	1	1
Geneva	22	72	F	18	66	F	1	1
Hamburg	19	66	C	18	66	F	1	1
Helsinki	15	59	F	18	66	F	1	1
Hong Kong	31	88	S	21	70	F	1	1
Hyderabad	24	75	F	18	66	F	1	1
Islandia	18	64	C	18	66	F	1	1
Jeddah	36	97	S	21	70	F	1	1
Kuala Lumpur	27	81	F	18	66	F	1	1
La Paz	15	59	F	18	66	F	1	1
Le Touquet	19	66	C	18	66	F	1	1
London	22	72	F	18	66	F	1	1
Lucerne	22	72	F	18	66	F	1	1
Luxembourg	19	66	C	18	66	F	1	1

HIGH TIDES

	AM	PM	HT	HT
London Bridge	5.00	5.2	5.17	5.9
Abbeville	5.00	5.2	5.17	5.9
Amman	5.00	5.2	5.17	5.9
Antananarivo	5.00	5.2	5.17	5.9
Algiers	5.00	5.2	5.17	5.9
Bahia	5.00	5.2	5.17	5.9
Belgrade	5.00	5.2	5.17	5.9
Bombay	5.00	5.2	5.17	5.9
Buenos Aires	5.00	5.2	5.17	5.9
Brussels	5.00	5.2	5.17	5.9
Cairo	5.00	5.2	5.17	5.9
Cape Town	5.00	5.2	5.17	5.9
Cebu	5.00	5.2	5.17	5.9
Chennai	5.00	5.2	5.17	5.9
Columbia	5.00	5.2	5.17	5.9
Dublin	5.00	5.2	5.17	5.9
Durham	5.00	5.2	5.17	5.9
Edinburgh	5.00	5.2	5.17	5.9
Florence	5.00	5.2	5.17	5.9
Frankfurt	5.00	5.2	5.17	5.9
Geneva	5.00	5.2	5.17	5.9
Hamburg	5.00	5.2	5.17	5.9
Helsinki	5.00	5.2	5.17	5.9
Hong Kong	5.00	5.2	5.17	5.9
Hyderabad	5.00	5.2	5.17	5.9
Islandia	5.00	5.2	5.17	5.9
Jeddah	5.00	5.2	5.17	5.9
Kuala Lumpur	5.00	5.2	5.17	5.9
La Paz	5.00	5.2	5.17	5.9
Le Touquet	5.00	5.2	5.17	5.9
London	5.00	5.2	5.17	5.9
Lucerne	5.00	5.2	5.17	5.9
Luxembourg	5.00	5.2	5.17	5.9

AROUND BRITAIN

	Sun	Rain	Max	Min
Scarborough	10.4	1.5	55	45
London	10.4	1.5	55	45
Cardiff	10.4	1.5	55	45
Manchester	10.4	1.5	55	45
Birmingham	10.4	1.5	55	45
Edinburgh	10.4	1.5	55	45
Glasgow	10.4	1.5	55	45
Belfast	10.4	1.5	55	45
London	10.4	1.5	55	45
Cardiff	10.4	1.5	55	45
Manchester	10.4	1.5	55	45
Birmingham	10.4	1.5	55	45
Edinburgh	10.4	1.5	55	45
Glasgow	10.4	1.5	55	45
Belfast	10.4	1.5	55	45

THE POUND

	Bank	Gold	Silver
Australia \$	2.06	2.07	2.07
Canada \$	2.06	2.07	2.07
Denmark Kr	2.06	2.07	2.07
France F	2.06	2.07	2.07
Germany DM	2.06	2.07	2.07
Italy Lira	2.06	2.07	2.07
Japan Yen	2.06	2.07	2.07
Netherlands Gld	2.06	2.07	2.07
Norway Kr	2.06	2.07	2.07
Portugal Esc	2.06	2.07	2.07
Spain Ptas	2.06	2.07	2.07
Sweden Kr	2.06	2.07	2.07
Switzerland Fr	2.06	2.07	2.07
USA \$	2.06	2.07	2.07
Yugoslavia Dnr	2.06	2.07	2.07

الجزيرة

CHANGE ON WEEK	
FT 30 Share	1440.1 (-3.8)
FT-SE 100	1801.1 (-1.1)
USM (Datastream)	154.17 (+2.23)
US dollar	1.8625 (-0.0160)
W German mark	3.1309 (-0.0137)
Trade-weighted	77.9 (-0.5)

THE TIMES

MONDAY MAY 9 1988

PART 2
BUSINESS & FINANCE 23-28
SPORT 38-42

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

Sterling 'set to fall below DM2.60'

By Rodney Lord
and David Smith

The pound will fall sharply by the end of the year, dropping by nearly 20 per cent against the mark, according to a forecast today by DRI Europe, the economic consultancy group. It says sterling's strength is reminiscent of the dollar's overvaluation between 1983 and 1985.

"Dealers in the market think that they can make money short term and get out before the crash comes, perhaps by selling to central banks," DRI says. "They are probably wrong and are likely to lose money when the economic fundamentals reassert themselves."

The forecast is for a fall in sterling to below DM2.60 from the present level of just under DM3.15. The main reason for the weakness is the balance of payments. A current account deficit of £6.2 billion is forecast by DRI for this year, widening to more than £9 billion next.

CL-Alexanders Laing & Cruickshank, the broker, also predicts sterling weakness by the end of the year, but sees some short-term firming for the pound, possibly to DM3.25, as speculative funds continue to be attracted to Britain's relatively high interest rates.

The broker says sterling will drop to DM3 by the end of the year, the current account deficit widening from £5.7 billion this year to £7.3 billion in 1989.

In contrast, Goldman Sachs, the investment bank, says that although sterling is overvalued against the dollar, it is still significantly undervalued against the mark.

In terms of purchasing power parity — the relative prices of goods produced in Britain and overseas — Goldman believes the pound is worth about DM 3.27. It expects sterling to top £2 and DM 3.20 in the next few months, though it may fall back from these levels later in the year if interest rates rise abroad.

This view contradicts recent statements by Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, that any rise in sterling would be "not sustainable". Goldman says a further rise in the pound will not unduly handicap industry.

Cambridge Econometrics says the economy is set to slow sharply, while the balance of payments deficit will widen to a peak of £11 billion in 1990.

The consumer boom will not run much beyond this year, the forecasters say in an assessment of the economy to the year 2000. Growth is set to slow from 3.1 per cent this year to 1.6 per cent next year.

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Managements in £97m Sears buyouts

By Alison Eadie

Sears, the retailing group whose empire straddles Selfridges, the British Shoe Corporation, Olympus and Mappin & Webb, is selling two of its less successful businesses to a total of £97 million.

The 10 Lewis's department stores, situated mainly in North-west England, are being sold for £70 million to a team led by Mr Murray Gordon, who was chairman of Combined English Stores before its takeover by Next. Mr Jim Fyfe, the finance director of Lewis's, will become managing director. The buyout is being financed by Midland Montagu in a bought deal.

Sears is also withdrawing from US footwear retailing through the \$50 million (£27 million) sale of its Butler shoe store business. Butler made trading losses of \$8.2 million on sales of \$160.5 million in the year to end-January.

Mr Geoffrey Maitland Smith, the Sears chairman, said yesterday that Lewis's had been a distraction to management for some time and represented a large investment for a negligible profit. The department stores made trading profits of £3.7 million last year on sales of £149 million. In 1986-87, Lewis's made profits of only £1 million.

The book loss of £12 million on the sale will show up in the 1987-88 accounts as an extraordinary item.

Mr Maitland Smith said there was no intention of parting with Selfridges, the London department store. Sears, under the chairmanship of the late Sir Charles Clore, bought Lewis's 25 years ago, to secure Selfridges.

Sears is retaining the freeholds of the stores at Glasgow and Hanley, where there are large redevelopment plans. It is also keeping its various retail concessions in the stores and will continue to run the Lewis's credit card.

The sale of Butler comes after a prolonged period of difficult trading in America. Mr Maitland Smith said results remained disappointing, despite significant rationalization, and the likely future returns did not justify retaining the business.

Sears acquired Butler from Zale Corporation in 1961 for \$100 million, when the sterling-dollar exchange rate was \$2.35. It will show a £34 million extraordinary loss on the sale.

The management offer was preferred over competing offers, including a higher one from Mr Joseph Shapiro, the son of Butler's founder, because of its certainty, Mr Maitland Smith said. Mr Shapiro's offer was only slightly higher, with a greater deferred payment, and was more intangible, he added.

Sears will tomorrow report its results for the year to end-January. The City is looking for pretax profits of between £240 million and £245 million, including about £10 million of property profits. A property revaluation, the first for five years, is expected to boost the book value from £648 million to about £1 billion.

Another link financed by the two governments is out of the question, but EdF has spotted the weakness in the British transmission system and is preparing to build and finance a new link on its own.

Because most of Britain's power stations are in the Midlands and South Yorkshire, while demand is highest in the South, the national grid is out of balance and more power stations are needed in the South-east.

However, planning opposition to large-scale coal or nuclear power stations in the South, and the prospect of privatization, have led EdF to prepare presentations to the southern electricity boards which will be privatized independently.

The boards will jointly own the national grid after privatization, as well as the conversion station north of Folkestone, which brings French power into phase with British supplies.

A duplication of the existing link would effectively mean the South gaining two large new power stations, with no planning or construction problems and no increased environmental impact.

This month the heads of all the European power companies are to have their three-yearly conference in Italy, and EdF is expected to use the occasion to spell out more details of its proposals to electricity board chairmen.

The threat of more cheap French power coming into the country has resulted in British Coal, itself an ultimate privatization target, considering moving into the power privatization business as a partner in small scale coal-fired power stations.

MP calls for ban on Rowntree sale

By Our City Staff

Mr Michael Grylls, the Conservative MP, will ask Mr Kenneth Clarke, the Industry Minister, today to invoke a little-used clause in the 1975 Industry Act to prohibit Nestlé, the Swiss group, from acquiring Rowntree.

Mr Grylls said the clause should be used because of the lack of reciprocity between Switzerland and Britain. He said: "I believe in international investment, but the playing field has to be level."

The interest in Cadbury Schweppes by General Cinema, the US group, was different because British companies had access to the American market, he said.

Swiss investors hold almost 40 per cent of Rowntree. Jacobs Suchard has 29.9 per cent and Nestlé, which is bidding £2.1 billion, more than 7 per cent.

Ward White, the retailer bidding £110 million for AG Stanley Holdings, says the retail record of Stanley's Fads chain is "dismal". In a letter to Stanley shareholders, Mr Philip Birch, the Ward chairman, says sales per square foot at Fads last year were £86, against £174 at Halfords and £107 at Payless DIY.

A BAA spokesman, commenting on reports that his company was preparing to launch a full and agreed bid for Lynton today, said the only Monday deadline was the decision on the options.

Decisions beyond that were a matter for negotiation, although BAA had said a full bid was a "strong possibility" at some stage, he said.

Lynton has a market capitalization of about £200 million.

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RTZ silent on 'sale' of Everest

By Colin Narborough

RTZ Corporation, the mining and industrial group, yesterday refused to confirm reports that it is close to selling Everest, its double-glazing offshoot, but made clear it is keeping an open mind on disposals.

Caradon, the building products company, was named as most likely buyer, although it was not prepared to comment.

While describing the weekend reports as "speculative", an RTZ spokesman underlined that the group was in the process of scrutinizing all its activities with a view to concentrating on its natural resource base and industrial operations.

This had led to the sale in February of Castle Cement for £248 million to a Scandinavian consortium, and the sale last month of its oil and gas interests for £308 million to France's Elf Aquitaine. He added that "one or two other smaller disposals" could be expected.

Everest is a small operation by RTZ standards, with a turnover one-tenth of Pillar's, its construction-related manufacturing division. Pillar's annual world turnover is about £1.2 billion.

Fitch & Co, the design company, has won a major contract from Ford Motor Co (UK) to redesign Ford's dealerships.

HK banks lift interest rates

Hong Kong banks are raising interest rates by a full one percentage point to 7.5 per cent from today after two deals caused a credit squeeze in the Crown Colony.

Credit lines set up to cover the HK\$3.9 billion (£268 million) Mr Li Ka-Shing paid for his right to develop the new Kwai Chung container terminal and Jardine Strategic Holdings' HK\$1.8 billion purchase of an 8 per cent stake in Hongkong Land resulted in a lifting of wholesale rates.

Deposit rates on savings and short-term deposits are to be increased by three quarters of a point.

Car contract

Fitch & Co, the design company, has won a major contract from Ford Motor Co (UK) to redesign Ford's dealerships.

Spectacular display of spectacles



Mr Maurice Miller, the chairman of Miller & Santhouse, has an eye for the unusual when displaying spectacles. The USM

quoted optician, is officially opening its flagship branch in New Bond Street, central London, tomorrow. The store will

sell a wide range of spectacle frames not available elsewhere in Britain, including a full selection of tortoiseshell and buf-

40 horn frames. Customers will also be able to try out coloured contact lenses. (Photograph: James Morgan)

French plan new electricity link

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Electricité de France, the French state electricity company, which is heavily in debt because of its ambitious nuclear power programme, is planning to capture a larger slice of the British electricity market after privatization.

This month members of the EdF board will give initial details of proposals to build a new cross-Channel link, which will bring more French power into the national grid.

The existing link, which brings the equivalent of the output from two of France's nuclear power stations into Kent each day — it has an array of six pressurized water reactors on the coast opposite Dover — was a joint operation financed by the French and British governments.

It was designed to allow each country to help the other meet supplies in times of emergency, such as a miners' strike or serious accidental damage to the grid systems.

However, because of the large surplus of power in France coming from its network of 72 nuclear stations, which it can sell at a price few other power stations can match, it has become a one-way link.

Another link financed by the two governments is out of the question, but EdF has spotted the weakness in the British transmission system and is preparing to build and finance a new link on its own.

Because most of Britain's power stations are in the Midlands and South Yorkshire, while demand is highest in the South, the national grid is out of balance and more power stations are needed in the South-east.

However, planning opposition to large-scale coal or nuclear power stations in the South, and the prospect of privatization, have led EdF to prepare presentations to the southern electricity boards which will be privatized independently.

The boards will jointly own the national grid after privatization, as well as the conversion station north of Folkestone, which brings French power into phase with British supplies.

A duplication of the existing link would effectively mean the South gaining two large new power stations, with no planning or construction problems and no increased environmental impact.

This month the heads of all the European power companies are to have their three-yearly conference in Italy, and EdF is expected to use the occasion to spell out more details of its proposals to electricity board chairmen.

The threat of more cheap French power coming into the country has resulted in British Coal, itself an ultimate privatization target, considering moving into the power privatization business as a partner in small scale coal-fired power stations.

Tunnel 'will help exports'

The Channel Tunnel will help Britain's export performance by speeding up delivery and lowering costs, according to more than half of the British companies surveyed jointly by Eurotunnel and British Rail.

The survey, which covers nearly 500 companies from all parts of England, Scotland and Wales, except the South-east, finds that not only is the fixed link to the Continent expected to bring tangible benefits to firms in the export business, but it will change perceptions about export prospects.

About 56 per cent of the non-exporting companies say they will consider selling abroad when the tunnel is built.

News of the positive stimulus industry expects may help allay fears that better links with mainland Europe will only suck in more imports and worsen the trade deficit.

The survey shows that the tunnel, due to open in 1993, is not likely to drain off investment from outlying regions, but will provide new openings for rail transport.

Mr Alastair Morton, the Eurotunnel co-chairman, underlining the "great prospects" for the tunnel in a comment on the survey, calls for urgent action by the Government and BR to improve rail links

Born-again Anglophile of Docklands

By Lawrence Lever

Mr Paul Reichmann is among the richest men in the world. He stands at the helm of Olympia & York Developments, one of the world's largest property companies which also has diverse holdings including Gulf Canada, the oil company, and 22 per cent of the Campan department store group.

Yet he is quietly spoken, modest in appearance and still visits his mother every day when he is not abroad on business. Mr Reichmann is the most unlikely-looking international property tycoon imaginable.

He and his brothers, Albert and Ralph, run the privately-owned O&Y which is currently financing and developing the £3 billion Canary Wharf project in the docklands of East London — the largest property development in Europe.

He looks and is a deeply religious man. A devout Jew, he wears a skull cap and his employees do not work on the Jewish sabbath or on Jewish holidays.

But he considers that his greatest achievement took place more than 30 years ago — before O&Y came into existence.

He was a refugee from the Nazis at the age of eight — his family fled Vienna in 1938, eventually settling in Morocco. His parents were born in Hungary and he himself speaks with a slight accent.

During the war he helped his mother and sister assemble packages to send to concentration camps. After it, he went to school and then travelled round the country building



Man at the top: Paul Reichmann and Lord Young visiting Canary Wharf

schools for a relief organization. By his mid-twenties he was in Casablanca in charge of about 60 schools.

"Building schools in Morocco was a type of work which gave me enthusiasm. I wasn't at all interested in business."

"But I think that what I did in those years was a greater achievement than what I have done since," he says.

O&Y, has some dazzling successes behind it which augur well for Canary Wharf. These include the New York World Financial Centre and Toronto's First Canadian Place.

The WFC complex is almost complete. It provides 8 million sq ft of office space, housing the headquarters of companies like American Express and Merrill Lynch. It is among the

largest commercial developments ever produced. About 90 per cent of its office space was pre-let.

Mr Reichmann is in Britain because he now has a confidence in the British economy which is such that it would make Mrs Thatcher, whom he has met, blush with pride.

It underlies much of his belief in the Canary Wharf project, which will have 12 million sq ft of office space, 400,000 sq ft of retail and leisure space and a three-mile riverside promenade.

The latter he thinks is very important, along with a host of secondary items — such as the design of the buildings, the variety in their appearance and the open spaces.

"It is very important to get the proper environment for the quality of life of a person between working hours," he says.

Work is already under way on the site and the first two buildings will be ready for use in 1990.

O&Y has two tenants for Canary Wharf inherited from the previous developers of the project, which O&Y took over last year. But Mr Reichmann hopes to have four or five more by the end of this year.

He constantly talks of Canary Wharf in superlatives. "Canary Wharf is a challenge of creativity and will make a contribution for generations to come. It will be recognized as the best in Europe, and initially, in the world."

However, a mere 18 months ago Mr Reichmann's thoughts were rather different. He rejected the Canary Wharf project out of hand. "It was first proposed to me about 18 months ago and I refused to look at it. I wasn't interested in development in Britain."

The seeds of Mr Reichmann's discontent with Great Britain Ltd had been sown several years previously. "We had a company in London called English Property Corporation. We sold it because we just felt that everything took too long to do in England."

"We had been planning a 200,000 sq ft shopping centre project in Knightsbridge but realized that with all the bureaucracy it would take as long to build as First Canadian Place which was a 3.5 million sq ft development in Toronto."

But when he was asked again to consider the project he changed his mind. "I realized that the England of today is not the England I knew before."

He cites the amount and rate of growth in the British economy over the past five or six years as the reason which encouraged him to say "yes" the second time round.

"Presently I do not believe that there is any turning back to what it was. The system has changed, the people, the spirit and the work. The attitude of workers has changed for the better."

The economic growth, he says, will bring "a tremendous demand on services and the need for state of the art facilities in plants and offices."

"In Canary Wharf we will have plenty of different types of buildings and open space, waterways and in particular landscaping."

"In good times everywhere is full. In weak times it is the better developments which retain tenants. So a good product is essential for our long-term success," he says.

THE DISCERNING PERSON'S GUIDE TO LONDON

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

THE ART GALLERY

"A relief and satisfaction in
the motley confusion, the vulgarity
of common life."

Wrote the art historian, William Hazlitt of Colnaghi's,
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water colours, prints
and sculptures.

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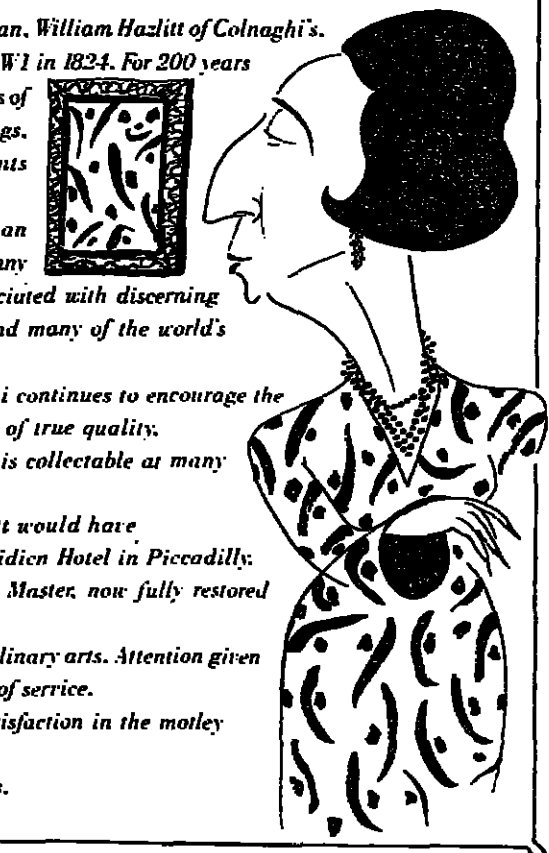
Today Colnaghi continues to encourage the
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Expert in the culinary arts. Attention given
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ANALYSIS

Brooks purchase is key test for M&S strategy

The cry that Marks and Spencer, the corner-stone of the British high street, is crumbling has a familiar ring to it — it is a theme that recurs every six or seven years.

Sooner or later the critics may get it right — after all, M&S has significant shares of the clothing and food retailing markets, both of which are theoretically mature. But the old lady of the stores sector is not going to give in easily.

Last year, even at the group's own admission, a tough one. Worries that the consumer boom was coming to an end sharpened competitors' edges. New space, particularly from smaller, niche retailers, flooded the market.

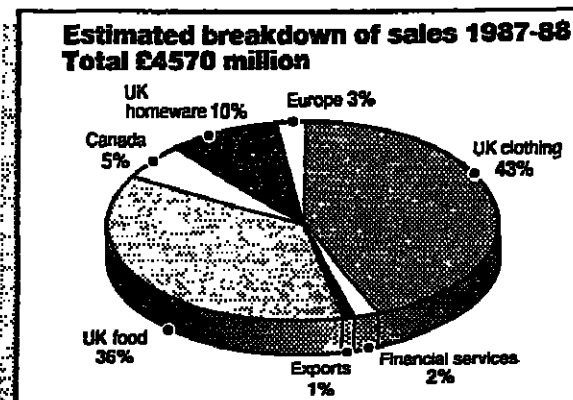
This lured customers, keen to spend their money on differentiated products, away from more traditional haunts. M&S, in a momentary desire to respond through its prime stores, was criticized for seeming to move away from its traditional middle-market, value-for-money base. The move up market, perceived or real, lost the group market share.

Now M&S has reverted to its proven formula of having 60 per cent of its products in the middle-price range, bordered by higher and lower-priced goods.

M&S remains the giant niche retailers want to unbalance. But to preserve its predominance, M&S has had to learn to stand firm.

Without neglecting product development and marketing, M&S needs to adapt to more modest growth when the market is buoyant or volatile, knowing quiet or recessionary times will bring customers back to the fold.

In food retailing, however, M&S is in quite a different position. Here it is the niche



Dressing for success

Clothes still occupy the biggest proportion of Marks and Spencer's £4.5 billion sq ft of British selling space, giving the group a dominant 15 per cent share of the market. M&S's later thrust into food

retailing earned it a 5 per cent market share, while homeware are becoming increasingly important. As yet, M&S has a modest presence overseas, but has ambitions to expand it.

significant. For instance, the Marble Arch store turns over £5 million a week, receiving £1 million of stock a day.

The recent difficulties of Storehouse and Harris Queensway demonstrate the importance of control.

It is all very well keeping a business on the rails in good times, but maintaining it there in difficult markets picks out the truly skilled retailer.

Financial services are an exciting new area for M&S. With more than 2 million charge card customers, the group has the opportunity to sell other financial products through the network.

Brooks Brothers also has an established charge card operation accounting for 34 per cent of sales.

By the end of this year M&S will have completed a £1.5 billion store refurbishment schedule and will be free to

turn its attention to opening stores on the edge of towns.

A dozen such projects are already underway, adding 1.5 million sq ft of selling space, with the same number again in the planning stage. This will not interfere with the high street programme to open nearly 500,000 sq ft a year.

Although adding space is no substitute for genuine growth, locations that suit today's consumer will maximize M&S's chances of making its product range work. The group has always been a pioneer in developing new products with its suppliers.

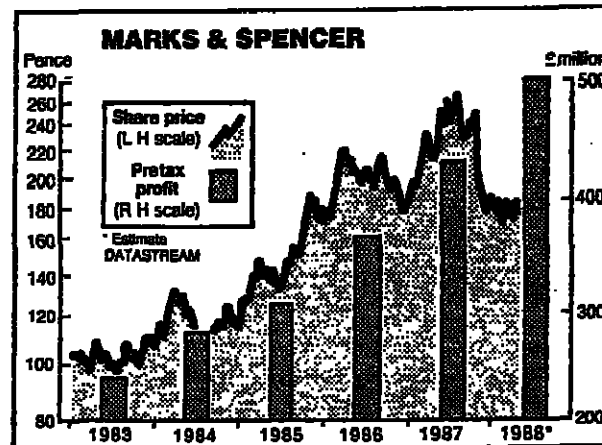
And, with sales per square foot at levels that make much of the competition look silly — M&S on about £400 per sq ft for clothing alone compared to BHS's £160 — M&S must be doing something right.

Location is one of the keys to the Brooks Brothers chain, where the business's exclusive image makes it easy to procure the best sites.

If M&S can continue to find good sites for Brooks and reach a larger number of customers, while at the same time maintaining both margins and the chain's exclusive image, the arithmetic that justified paying at least 27 times Brooks' historic earnings makes more sense.

Admittedly, the initial adverse reaction to the Brooks acquisition has partly died down as more information has become available. The takeover p/e ratio is much in line with those for other US specialist retailers, and the 2 per cent maximum earnings dilution this year is insignificant in group terms.

But the potential damage to M&S's reputation if Brooks proves a bad buy is enormous. Meanwhile the sceptics point to the group's poor record in Canada. (M&S meets criti-



High rating eroded

Marks and Spencer has achieved steady earnings growth, averaging more than 18 per cent compound over the last five years.

Although not markedly ahead of the industry's average growth rate, a reputation for reliability and quality of earnings has won Marks a premium rating.

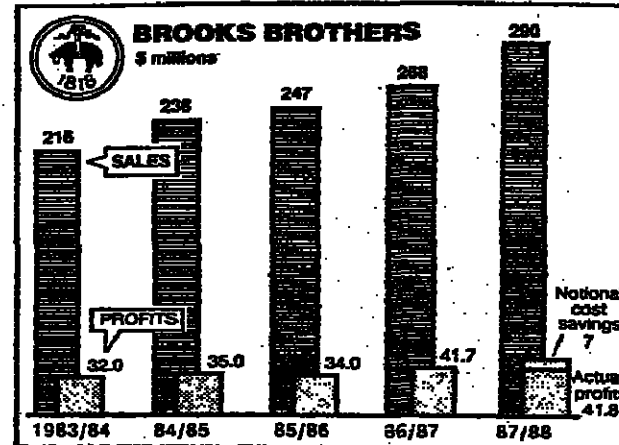
But this has been eroded from 45 per cent above the market to less than 20 per cent since the turn of the year.

Investors worried about the growth rate of the core businesses and were concerned

by pointing out that the Canadian experience has taught it how not to do it.

There is scope to double the number of Brooks' US stores and to add gradually in Japan. Thereafter, the main challenge must be Europe, although M&S could make a bad mistake if it decides to launch a European Brooks under the M&S umbrella.

The search for US earnings is not complete. The next push is into food retailing. Buying a specialist food retailer on the east coast will help M&S tie up



Classic move into US

Brooks Brothers is a select US retailing chain selling primarily classic men's clothing to establishment east coasters. Women's wear, however, accounts for 12 per cent of sales and is growing in importance.

Brooks has 47 stores in the US and 21 outlets in Japan, through a 51 per cent-owned joint venture. A third of the goods sold by Brooks are made in its own US manufacturing facilities.

M&S, its third owner in as many years, paid \$750 million (£400 million) for Brooks. The price included \$50 million for

than an existing operation. Marks and Spencer is of a size that makes it unreasonable to expect it capable of results that sparkle like some of its smaller competitors.

But the full benefits of the systems that have been installed, not to mention the potential for homeware, financial services and mail order, are barely breaking the surface.

These will all provide fuel for M&S's growth in the medium to longer term, and

should ensure the shares recover to a level that is at least in line with the sector's 20 to 30 per cent premium rating to the market.

In the short term, however, attention may continue to be focused on Brooks Brothers. And it is too early to say whether the Brooks Brothers golden fleece logo encases a wolf, ready to terrorize what some would say is Britain's most expert yet most unworried retailer.

Alexandra Jackson

More unit trusts to be won in Stockwatch competition

Can you identify the businessman from the photographic clue? If not, pick up your telephone and call 0898-141-400, where you will hear our mystery guest talking about his company. Identify him and four other businessmen this week and £2,000 of unit trusts could be yours.

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Each day we will publish

a new picture, and when you call 0898-141-400 you will hear a different voice, five each week. The recording of the personality will change at 4am each day.

Details of how to complete your entry to this week's competition will appear in *The Times* on Saturday, together with an entry coupon.

The first correct entry opened after the closing date will win the £2,000 worth of unit trusts. Winners may select the type of unit trust they prefer from a range recommended by Equitable Life.

Call 0898-141-400 now. Can you identify the voice of today's business leader?

Caution over US outlook suggests cash may prove a safer haven than equities

The mood in global bond markets has turned somewhat darker in past weeks, and for perfectly understandable reasons.

The co-ordinated easing in monetary policy by the leading central banks in the wake of the stock market crash has succeeded in averting a slow-down in global activity, and thoughts are turning once more to inflationary dangers.

Although gold and oil prices remain subdued, other commodity prices have risen by 25 per cent in SDR terms over the past 12 months. It is hard to escape the conclusion that the central banks may now wish to retreat at least part of the monetary easing which occurred late last year, and the initial reaction from the long end of the bond markets is likely, as usual, to be adverse.

The natural response of fund managers when faced with economic activity which is stronger than expected is to switch into equities. But when they did that last summer, in somewhat similar economic conditions to those which now prevail, the experience hardly proved to be a happy one. So what should they do this time?

For longer-term funds, this depends on the view taken of the relative valuation of stocks versus bonds. The accompanying graph shows our estimate of the risk premium on British equities, which is the difference between the expected return on equities and the expected return on gilts. (The former is equal to the dividend yield plus expected dividend growth, while the latter is simply equal to the 20-year gilt yield.)

As the graph shows, the long-term average for the risk premium is almost 6 per cent, although this has fallen to an average 3 per cent since 1982. On our present estimates, the risk premium stands at about 4 per cent, which makes equities look quite dear by very long-term standards, but quite cheap by the more elevated standards of the 1980s.

We have checked to see whether signals offered by the risk premium can be translated into a profitable trading rule for fund managers. The

answer is "yes" — but only on two provisos. First, we need to take account of the fact that the risk premium appears highly correlated with the rate of inflation — when inflation is high, equities tend to be hit rather harder than bonds.

Secondly, the trading rule needs to be biased very heavily in favour of equities. Because stocks have historically out-performed gilts by such a wide margin (6 per cent a year), the trick has been to move out of equities only in extreme circumstances. Using these facts, we are able to design trading rules which, over long runs of past data, have out-performed passive investment strategies by impressive distances.

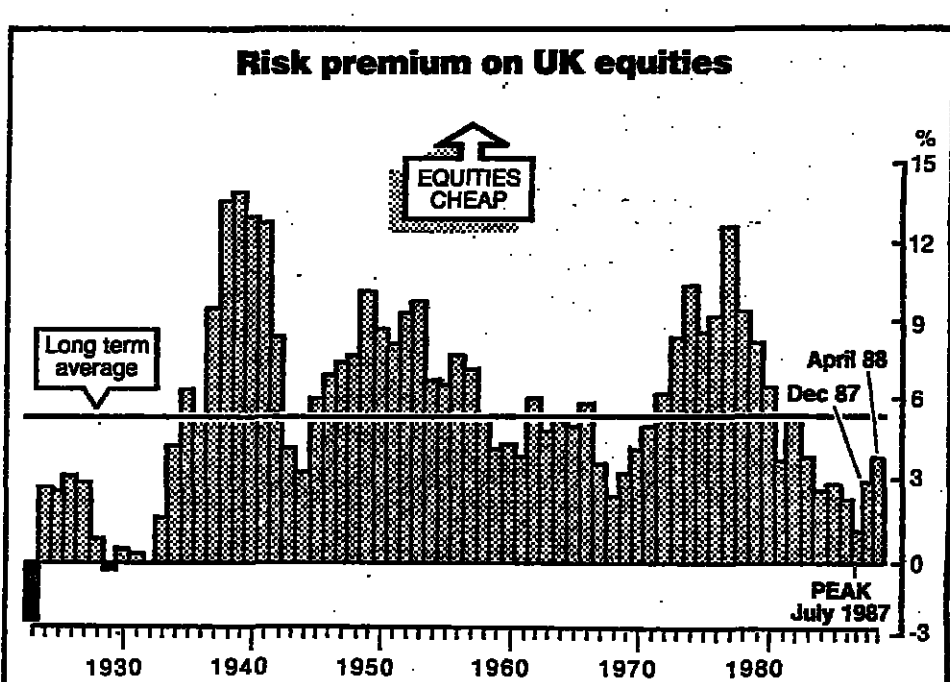
One can formalize this analysis further by estimating econometric relationships between future excess returns on equities over bonds and historic levels of gilt yields, dividend yields and inflation. Under fully efficient markets such relationships should not be significant at all, since every scrap of published historic information should be included in existing prices.

Yet, time and again, we find that such relationships are significant. Again, they can be translated into formal trading strategies, which can be operated entirely on a "hands-off" basis if desired.

As might be expected, these trading rules turned increasingly bearish of equities from February to October 1987. Since December, the same trading rules have been suggesting that equities might outperform gilts on 12-month horizons, but only by tiny margins (varying from 2 per cent to 6 per cent).

This is not a very solid foundation on which to build a clear recommendation to hold equities over gilts. Compare the present situation, for example, with the position at the bottom of the 1974 equity bear market. Then, our equations were predicting 50 to 60 per cent excess returns for equities over gilts in the year ahead, and the outcome was almost 90 per cent.

The present bear market may therefore have washed out extreme equity over-



valuation, but it has not (yet) plumbed the depths of equity under-valuation seen in previous bear markets.

In fact, the predicted excess returns of 2 to 6 per cent on equities over gilts may not be sufficiently robust to withstand any negative influences from Wall Street, which has a significant impact on British equities regardless of events here.

According to our equations, a negative return on US shares

of 3 to 9 per cent in the year ahead might be sufficient to completely offset the impact of domestic fundamentals, leaving British shares performing less well than gilts. Because our view is that Wall Street remains vulnerable to a big setback on a 12-month horizon, we would recommend that funds remain very cautious about their British equity weightings at present.

The relative valuation of equities against gilts, while mildly favourable to equities,

is not sufficient to offset the potential "contagion" effects of a large drop in US share prices. This obviously implies that funds worried about an increase in bond yields in the immediate future should head for cash rather than equities, despite the fact that forecasts for economic activity are looking more buoyant by the day.

Gavyn Davies
Chief UK economist
Goldman Sachs

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Syndicated lending by banks back in favour

By Graham Searjeant, Financial Editor

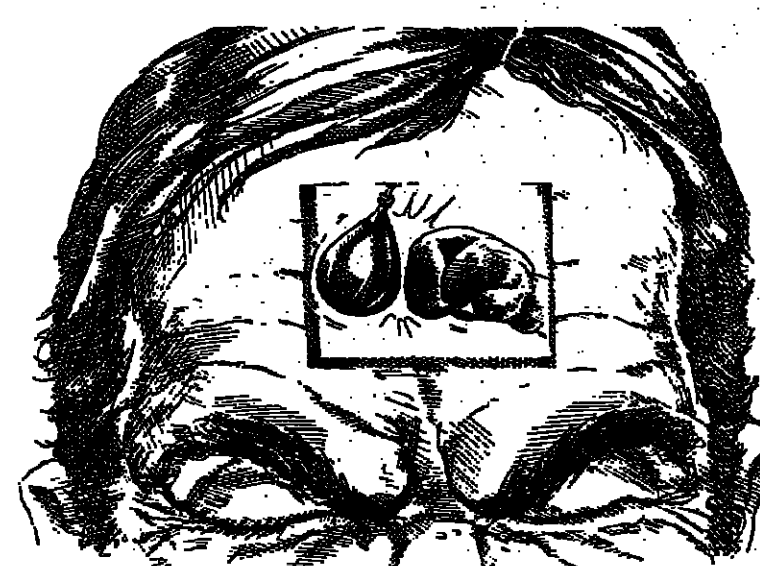
Syndicated international bank lending, which fell out of favour after the international debt crisis, has made a strong comeback, but the big borrowers are now mainly companies rather than countries.

An analysis of international capital markets by Lloyds Bank shows that \$89 billion (£48 billion) of new loans at variable market interest rates were syndicated by banks last year, up 68 per cent on 1986. But total new borrowing on international capital markets fell

by 1.5 per cent after two years of 40 per cent growth.

Mr Patrick Foley, Lloyds' deputy chief economic adviser, said this was partly due to the collapse of the floating rate note market and a fall in Eurodollar bank issues because of dollar weakness.

But syndicated issues have also become more competitive. The average interest rate was only 0.36 of a percentage point above the London interbank offered rate (Libor), compared with 1 per cent 10 years ago.



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Truck industry poised for another record sales year

By Daniel Ward, Motor Industry Correspondent

Commercial vehicle sales in Britain are showing no signs of slackening, and the unexpectedly healthy demand suggests the once-beleaguered truck industry is set for its second consecutive year of record sales.

In the first four months of this year registrations were already running 7.6 per cent higher than for the corresponding period 12 months ago, when commercial vehicle sales climbed to a record 312,730 for the full year.

The traditionally cautious truck industry expected sales to peak after excellent business last year, and to fall by a few per cent in 1988 as sales tailed off towards the end of the year. Packed order books suggest this is now unlikely and registrations are set to outstrip the 1987 record.

Sales in April alone reached 27,424, an increase of more than 15 per cent compared with the same month in 1987, despite recent strikes affecting production and stocks at Ford, Land-Rover and Renault. According to figures from the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders, registrations were 117,096 for January to April, compared with 108,096 in the period last year.

Particularly buoyant is the over 3.5-tonne gross vehicle weight heavy truck sector, where sales of 22,194 for January to April were 15.8 per cent higher than a year ago.

Best seller Iveco Ford improved its share of the heavy truck sector from 22 to 24.5 per cent for the first four months of 1988, though it is

difficult to make an accurate statement of its advantage over second-placed Leyland-Daf because sales surge and then fall back in line with aggressive campaigns.

Leyland-Daf sold fewer British-built trucks in April than a year ago though sales of the imported new Daf 95 series are rising.

Mercedes-Benz is steadily narrowing the gap on Iveco and Leyland. Sales this year are running 25 per cent ahead of the same period in 1987 and the West German truck builder has a 17 per cent share of the sector, trailed by Volvo (10.6 per cent).

In April, Foden sold three and a half times the number of top-weight vehicles registered in the same month of 1987, while for the first four months

of this year ERF's sales were up 70 per cent to 1,220.

Four-wheel-drive vehicles boast the fastest growth of any of the vehicle sectors in the British market. For the first four months of 1988 sales of these light utility vehicles jumped 29 per cent compared with the same period in 1987. Booming demand for the Japanese vehicles and the five-week strike at Land-Rover pushed the British manufacturer's share down to a 33.7 per cent of the sector in April.

Registrations of the best-selling van, the Ford Transit, rose 88.9 per cent to 4,930 in April compared with the same month last year, largely accounting for the 26 per cent growth in the light van sector last month.

Engineers fear cuts in public spending

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

The civil engineering contracting industry, which has a £4 billion-a-year market, is becoming increasingly worried about likely reductions in public spending on infrastructure.

Although the industry looks set for steady growth this year, there is also increasing anxiety at the Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors that schemes which may be put forward by the private sector for projects like roads may meet Treasury opposition.

Mr Ron Emery, the federation's director-general, said: "Looking ahead we can see a gap between the level of infrastructure investment that is needed and the likely Government provisions for public sector investment in essential infrastructure."

This is because the Government is committed to reductions in public expenditure and other demands such as health and social services provisions for increasing numbers of the elderly are likely to absorb more cash.

The federation is keen that the gap should be closed by private sector-backed projects and has welcomed the encouragement by some government ministers for contractors and bankers to put up schemes.

But the federation detects no clear sign of the Treasury being more flexible so it has commissioned a study of Treasury policy and rules. It will look closely at how fairly it takes into account the benefits to business and communities when works are completed and services provided earlier than if projects had to wait in the queue for normal public capital financing.

Civil engineering order books continue to improve, although at a slower rate, according to the federation's latest workload survey. There are regional variations, however, with a patchiness in Scotland and a marked levelling off in the flow of tenders in the North-west, the Midlands and South Wales.

Low profit margins and some shortages in skilled operatives and engineers also still persist, says the survey.



A sweet £78m offering

Mr John Thornton, above, is bringing his favourite chocolates to the market today with the flotation of his company - Thornton's - in a £78.6 million offer for sale. The manufacturer and retailer of quality chocolates sent out a total of

20,000 prospectuses to customers in company shops over the weekend. Mr Thornton, the chairman, is the grandson of the founder, Mr Joseph Thornton, who opened his first sweet shop in Sheffield in 1911.

Hotels to be built by BAA

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

Work on two new hotels at Heathrow and Gatwick airports is expected to start by the end of the year.

The hotels are being built by BAA, formerly British Airports Authority, in the first phase of making the company a leading worldwide hotel chain.

A subsidiary company - BAA Hotels - has been set up under the directorship of Mr Michael Brooker, former head of British Caledonian Airways' hotel subsidiary, Copthorne Hotels.

Planning permission has been granted for a 400-room hotel near Terminal 4 at Heathrow and at Gatwick where a 475-room hotel is in the final stages of design.

Permission has also been obtained for a hotel at Stansted, Essex, and at Glasgow.

Mr Brooker said: "We are concentrating all our efforts on getting these hotels near airports under way as soon as possible. We have also many aspirations for building hotels near airports around the world."

No name has yet been chosen for the hotels, which BAA sees as an opportunity to diversify from airport operations. One of the company's priorities will be to establish a large land bank near airports and city centres.

US NOTEBOOK

Markets shrug off inflation worries

From Maxwell Newton, New York

Monetary and economic news has underlined widespread fears of inflation and excessive US domestic demand.

But the bond market and the dollar currency market are not falling over in a heap.

Indeed a hot issue now is: "Has the dollar stabilized already, as it is going to rise during 1988 to reach perhaps ¥140-150 by the year-end?"

Both bond and currency markets have been showing considerable resilience in the face of:

● a steady decline in the unemployment rate;

● strongly accelerating growth of money and the monetary base;

● blatantly irresponsible Federal Reserve money management, which shows no regard for the apparent underlying fragility of the support for the dollar;

● clear evidence, from the markets and the foreign exchange statistics, that the leading creditor central banks (the Bank of England, the Bundesbank and the Bank of Japan) have drastically curtailed their dollar intervention support in 1988 so far - to perhaps one-sixth of the last year's rate of dollar support last year;

● rising short-term US interest rates.

All sorts of negative money numbers are emerging. Monetary base growth accelerated from 4.7 per cent a year in February to 12.6 per cent in the two weeks ending May 4. Between December and the two weeks to May 4, it rose at an annual rate of 15 per cent - a total loss of control.

Some would describe the state of affairs as the calm before a storm. But there is evidence that the employment figures give a seriously exaggerated impression of US economic expansion.

Personal consumption in real terms rose only 1.9 per cent in 1987 and at an annual rate of only 0.6 per cent in the two quarters to March 1988.

The construction industry is stagnant. So is home-building. The federal government's military spending programmes have peaked.

If it were not for the ghastly disorder in the Federal Reserve monetary policy, the judgement on the US economy, inflation and dollar would have to be: not too bad, considering how terrible the crisis looks through the prism of the trade deficit figures.

ECONOMIC VIEW

Our farms should grow crops not subsidies

Industry is born free yet everywhere is enslaved by the agricultural lobby. That might form the sub-title to a worldwide study of the effects of farming support policies which was launched by the Trade Policy Research Centre last week.

At the launch of the study, in London, the various authors, co-ordinated by Canberra's Centre for International Economics, were largely preaching to the converted.

Yet the losers from farm subsidies are by no means confined to the United Kingdom. Nor is agricultural protectionism uniquely a way of life in the European Economic Community. The level of subsidies to food producers in Japan, where rice sells at eight times the world price, is notorious. Still more baffling are the subsidies paid in the United States with its huge natural advantages as a food producer.

The aim of this new study is to quantify the economic costs of these subsidies and bring them to the attention of the unprotesting majority. Transfers of resources into one sector of the economy inevitably mean transfers out of others. Most obviously, payments to food producers have to be paid for out of taxes levied on taxpayers as a whole.

In addition, price support obliges consumers to spend more of their income buying food, leaving less for other goods and services. Consumer price indices are inflated, leading in turn to higher spending on social security and sometimes higher wage costs.

Farmers are able to bid up the price of labour and capital, and in particular to inflate the price of land. And higher farm exports - or lower imports - in due course mean lower exports of other goods as the exchange rate adjusts.

Artificially increasing production in one sector produces a less than ideal distribution of economic effort. So the lost opportunities suffered by those who give tend to outweigh the gains of those who receive.

According to the new study, in the EEC the effect of removing both the Common Agricultural Policy and the present national protectionist measures would be to increase manufacturing output by 1 per cent and create 3 million jobs. This is true not only of Britain but also of West Germany, which could account for up to 850,000 of the extra employment.

In Japan removing agricultural protection would produce a 2.5 per cent increase in real wages and a fall of about 70 per cent in rural land prices. And in

the US similar action could reduce the budget deficit by \$37 billion (£19.82 billion), improve the balance of trade by \$42 billion and add \$14 billion to national income.

The effects of opening markets for farm produce in the developed countries to the Third World would be even more obviously beneficial, leading to a \$26 billion a year gain in foreign currency earnings among the debtor nations and the possibility of a significant reduction in aid from the richer parts of the world.

Unaccountably there is little sign of bankers in the industrialized countries lobbying to take advantage of this unique chance of being repaid.

Worldwide dismantling of farm subsidies can only be negotiated gradually through diplomatic machinery, such as next week's ministerial meeting at the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, in Paris, and the Gatt round, in Geneva. But, in this instance, there are unequivocal benefits from unilateral disarmament. A good place to start would be Britain's public expenditure survey now under way.

If the principle of loans is good enough for the new income support benefit then there is a good case for also converting the £107 million of capital grants to farmers into loans.

Hill livestock compensatory allowances are partly financed by the EEC so cutting them back could reduce Britain's receipts. But given the economic costs of the domestic subsidy it is by no means a foregone conclusion that the balance of argument is in favour of keeping HLCAs at their present level. As for the £238 million of public spending on research, advisory services and administration, it is impossible to say whether it provides value for money. The way to find out is to charge users the economic cost of these services and see if they still want them.

On the tax side, now that the Chancellor has cut rates substantially he should set about removing the remaining tax shelters, including some of those enjoyed by farming. Unlike other businesses, farms can average their profits over three years for income tax purposes and can also claim relief of up to 50 per cent against inheritance tax. Under the poll tax provisions they will continue to be exempted from business rates.

The Government should match its deeds to its anti-protectionist rhetoric by putting agriculture on something like the same footing as other businesses.

Rodney Lord
Economics Editor

Green-eyed monster at work

By John Spicer, Employment Affairs Correspondent

Unchecked jealousy and over-competition can wreak havoc in a company, and can be aggravated by weak leadership. Favouritism, perks, hierarchical promotions and the use of subordinates as confidants can all lead to disaster, according to a firm of corporate psychologists.

These factors can lead to personal concerns being substituted - for organizational goals; cloud communication channels with subjectivity and gossip; erode teamwork, causing loss of productivity; and become a vicious cycle as politics and jealousy feed off each other.

These warnings to company,

managers have been put forward by Rohrer, Hibler and Replege, a Chicago firm with offices in London, which says jealousy comes into play when there is a perception of unfair advantage, or advantage unfairly gained. The views are set out in *Business Review*, published by Drake International, the recruitment consultancy.

"Jealousy and unhealthy competition thrive during periods of organizational breakdown and weak leadership, which leaves the door open for selfish opportunism and unfair treatment of one person by another," says the report. RHR says unhealthy competition is bred by:

● favouritism - special attention given to one subordinate, out of proportion to the job or productivity;

● a "social" atmosphere; people realize massaging egos is easier than digging out hard facts;

● the management reward system emphasizes perks; the "haves" and "have nots" tend to go for status rather than challenge and responsibility;

● an over-reliance on hierarchical promotions;

● when the chief executive uses as his confidant a subordinate, elevating him to an enormous level of prestige and illegitimate power, which breeds jealousy.

Open for closing down

The wheels of perestroika and glasnost are not turning very smoothly for a Moscow veteran worker, Comrade Ly Voinova. In the latest issue of *Moscow News*, a relatively progressive weekly for Soviet standards, she complains that although her District Executive Committee's Commission on Individual and Co-Operative Enterprise (another of those snappy Soviet titles) has issued her with a licence to sell homemade sweets, she cannot find anywhere to do so in the Soviet capital. She has been warned that she faces a fine of 50 roubles (about £50) for selling her Turkish delight and waffles in "unauthorized places". Problem is, the authorities are not very keen to tell her which ones they are, except that they include pedestrian crossings and underground stations. And when Mrs Voinova tried to hawk her wares outside the Belorussian Railway Station, she was moved on, "because there are foreigners there". Not surprisingly, she says that without even having had a taste of individual enterprise, she has already lost her appetite for it.

Words worth

The first annual Percy Awards have been given in America to the finest exponents of lousy business writing. The Percys are Gary and Eve Blake's way of fighting convoluted prose and bad grammar. They run the Communication Workshop, in New York, giving public and company spon-

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Caught out courting

Do not get mad, get even: that is the policy of America's office women. Suing a male colleague for sexual harassment can win you between \$5,000 (£2,600) and \$140,000 in the US, with the average settlement around \$40,000. Moreover, about half the suits

sored seminars on how to put down on paper what is meant. Their two golden rules: only use words you would use in conversation; and read your memo out loud. One of the Percy winners just announced shows that journalists are not immune. A Washington magazine publisher circulated this gem to heads of department: "You should to the greatest extent possible strive for symmetry in your involvement with the business and editorial staff as this relates to the level of person you meet with on a regular, formal basis."

Neighbours

More bad language: "Jeffrey Archer as a neighbour is one of the unspeakable benefits of a substantial Edwardian country house in the famed village of Granchester," trumpets Bidwells, a Cambridge estate agent. The house, which the shameless agent hopes to sell for more than £500,000, "stands solidly opposite Mr Archer's house, the Old Vicarage, and the Orchard - both of which were residences of the poet Rupert Brooke, close to Byron's pool where Brooke

are successful, either before a judge or in a private settlement before the case reaches court. And women are not the only ones who are complaining. There has been a surge in the number of sexual harassment suits brought by American men against women bosses.

romped and swam in various stages of nudity with his chums." How much of the sale price is accounted for by the Archer and Brooke bonuses Bidwells does not say.

● For those who thought only men such as Sir John Harvey-Jones, Alan Sugar and Bruce Oldfield were tuned into 1992, the DTI campaign will this week unveil its first Europe-minded woman: Sock Shop's Sophie Mirman.



"I'm going to be a dentist when I grow up"

Goading Goodison

If Sir Nicholas Goodison is counting on leaving his critics behind when he moves on shortly from the Stock Exchange to chair the TSB Group, he counted without Terry Ahern. Ahern, aged 74, and a member of the Exchange for 49 years, has just bought a handful of TSB shares to guarantee him to TSB's next annual meeting. For some reason, Ahern is unhappy about the way Sir Nicholas has been running the Stock Exchange, particularly in the run-up to Big Bang. "I'm not a Luddite, I'm all for change," says Ahern, still an associate member of broker Walker Crips Weddell Beck. "My objection is that he dithered around doing nothing for five years and then rushed through all the Big Bang changes." So what will Ahern's latest line of attack be? "I haven't decided yet. I'll first listen to what he has to say in his chairman's statement. The first thing I learned in the army was that information about the enemy comes Number One."

● Bid targets like Rowntree, stalked by both Nestlé and Suchard, should not give up hoping for divine help. Pope John Paul II, shocked by the takeover fever which is gripping Italy, has warned financiers against trying to ensure "domination" by what he calls excessive purchases of holdings in other businesses. A recent tally shows that 403 companies changed hands in Italy last year.

Joe Joseph

BSN

Incorporated with limited liability in the Republic of France

Share capital: FF520,360,300

Head Office: 7 rue de Téhéran - 75008 Paris, France

NOTICE OF MEETING

Shareholders are hereby informed that an Ordinary General Meeting will be held at the Palais de Longrès (Salle Havane), Paris at 3 pm on Tuesday, 31st May, 1988 to consider the following agenda:

- Presentation of the reports to the Board of Directors and of the Statutory Auditors;
- Approval of the agreements as per article 101 of the French Company Law of 24th July, 1966;
- Approval of the Company's accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1987 and giving final discharge to the Board of Directors;
- Appropriation of the profit and deciding the dividend;
- Renewal of the appointments of members of the Board of Directors;
- Renewal of the authority granted to the Board of Directors to deal in the Company's shares on The Stock Exchange;

All shareholders will be entitled to attend the Meeting, regardless of the number of shares held.

To be entitled to attend or to be represented at the Meeting:

- holders of registered shares must be recorded in the company's share register at least five days before the date of the Meeting;
- holders of bearer shares must deposit at the head office of the company or at a branch of the institutions listed below, at least five days before the date of the Meeting, a certificate evidencing that the shares have been deposited with authorised intermediaries until the date of the Meeting:

Lazard Frères et Cie, 121 boulevard Haussmann, 75008 Paris, FRANCE.
Crédit Lyonnais, 19 boulevard des Italiens, 75002 Paris, FRANCE.
Banque Paribas, 3 rue d'Antin, 75002 Paris, FRANCE.
Banque de Neufilze, Schlumberger, Mallet, 3 avenue Hoche, 75008 Paris, FRANCE.
Crédit Industriel et Commercial de Paris, 66 rue de la Victoire, 75009 Paris, FRANCE.
Société Générale, 29 boulevard Haussmann, 75009 Paris, FRANCE.
Banque Transatlantique, 17 boulevard Haussmann, 75009 Paris, FRANCE.
Crédit du Nord, 6 et 8 boulevard Haussmann, 75009 Paris, FRANCE.
Société Lyonnaise de Banque, 8 rue de la République, 69009 Lyon, FRANCE.
Banque Nationale de Paris, 16 boulevard des Italiens, 75009 Paris, FRANCE.
Mutuelle Industrielle, 55 rue la Boétie, 75008 Paris, FRANCE.
Banque Indosuez, 96 boulevard Haussmann, 75008 Paris, FRANCE.
Lombard Odier et Cie, 11 Cornarerie, Geneva, SWITZERLAND.
A. Sarasin et Cie, 107 Freiestrasse, Basle, SWITZERLAND.
J. Vontobel et Cie, Bahnhofstrasse 3, Zurich, SWITZERLAND.
Banque Worms, 45 boulevard Haussmann, 75009 Paris, FRANCE.
Banque Dornach et Associés, 223 rue Saint Honoré, 75001 Paris, FRANCE.
Lazard Brothers & Co., Limited, 21 Moorfields, London EC2P 2HT, ENGLAND.

Any shareholder wishing to attend the Meeting in person should request an admission card from one of the banks listed above.

Forms of proxy should be lodged with the Company at least five days before the date of the Meeting.

Another person may only represent a shareholder at the Meeting if he is himself entitled to attend the Meeting, or is the spouse or legal representative of the shareholder.

A voting form will be sent to every shareholder registered on the share register in order to vote by post.

Holders of bearer shares desiring to vote by post may obtain a voting form from the above institutions; holders must request such forms by registered letter to arrive at the institution not less than six days before the date of the Meeting.

Postal votes will be accepted only if received by the institutions at least five days before the date of the Meeting or received at the registered office of the Company at least three days before the date of the Meeting.

Copies of the resolutions to be submitted to the shareholders at the Meeting may be obtained from the offices of Lazard Brothers & Co., Limited, 21 Moorfields, London EC2P 2HT.

Le Conseil d'Administration

دو ایلیہ

Continued from
page 37

young executive. Full training given in all office systems. Audile ability needed, shorthand can be used. Please telephone 01-240 3511. Elizabeth Mung Recruitment Consultants.

AMSTERDAM SERVICES
START MAY 16

involved in the running of a small business with a view to eventually taking over. A great opportunity to be your own boss! Thousands of people use 01-870 0656/ 877 1003.

Bureau. 1 years work exp is needed together with an enquiring mind and outgoing personality. £35,000 to start. Contact David Fisher, 110 Fleet St, EC4A 3BS 7996.

young executive. Full training given in all office systems. Audile ability needed, shorthand can be used. Please telephone 01-240 3511. Elizabeth Mung Recruitment Consultants.

Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator

From your Portfolio card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily or accumulator dividend figures. If it matches or better this figure you have won outright or a share of the daily or accumulator prize money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Ne-Sun Inds	Industrials-LR	1.00
2	IMI (a)	Industrials-EK	1.00
3	Nihon Foods (a)	Food	1.00
4	Electrocomp	Electronics	1.00
5	Owners Abroad	Leisure	1.00
6	Metals Closures	Industrials-LR	1.00
7	Remcon	Industrials-LR	1.00
8	Daltry (a)	Food	1.00
9	Wilkes (a)	Industrials-SZ	1.00
10	Corah	Textiles	1.00
11	Devonshire (a)	Breweries	1.00
12	Quadrant Group	Leisure	1.00
13	Magnet (a)	Building Roads	1.00
14	Coats Virella (a)	Draperies	1.00
15	Whitcomb	Industrials-SZ	1.00
16	Crosby James	Building Roads	1.00
17	Stanley (a)	Draperies	1.00
18	Kleen-Eze	Industrials-EK	1.00
19	Graham (a)	Industrials-EK	1.00
20	Domino	Electronics	1.00
21	Lloyds (a)	Banking/Discount	1.00
22	Trent	Building Roads	1.00
23	Royal Fleet (a)	Electronics	1.00
24	Thorn Scientific	Electronics	1.00
25	Bowyer	Industrials-LR	1.00
26	Gordon Kay	Industrials-EK	1.00
27	Norton Ops	Paper/Print/Adv	1.00
28	Crods	Chemicals/Plas	1.00
29	Birmingham Mnt	Industrials-A-D	1.00
30	Rushmore	Property	1.00
31	Roll-Royce (a)	Motor/Aircraft	1.00
32	Geoff	Food	1.00
33	Be Airways (a)	Industrials-A-D	1.00
34	Guthrie	Industrials-EK	1.00
35	Maxwell Comm (a)	Newspapers/Pub	1.00
36	Logica	Electronics	1.00
37	Coleridge	Industrials-A-D	1.00
38	Hammerman	Industrials-LR	1.00
39	Elis & Goldstein	Draperies	1.00
40	Walker Greenhalgh	Industrials-SZ	1.00
41	Brimd Quakes	Industrials-A-D	1.00
42	Newspapers Ltd.	Daily Total	1.00

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

BRITISH FUNDS
Stock out-
Funds
Funds

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COMMUNICATIONS

FOCUS

A SPECIAL REPORT

The office revolution just a phone call away

A new telephone network is about to revolutionize our business methods, carrying, on one line, voice, data, text and pictures, reports Robert Matthews

Within the next few years the telephone wall socket will become the gateway to a host of telecommunications services that today are either awkward or impossible to use.

British Telecom and its counterparts abroad are working to set up the Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN) to make this possible.

Services such as telephones, picture transmission and telex, which now have to come into offices via a spaghetti of cables, will all be carried on one set.

Based on digital technology, the ISDN will offer much higher quality communication at much higher rates. Phones will ring almost the instant your finger leaves the buttons (compare that to the interminable series of clicks and bangs that the analogue telephone system has to run through before connection).

Phones will also be able to tell you who's calling — their number will appear on a liquid crystal display, so you can decide whether you want to answer or not.

Facsimile machines will be much faster, too. Today's group 3 fax machines can transmit an A4 page, with maybe a few lost lines of text, in about 60 seconds. Using ISDN's high-speed data transmission capability, a perfect copy of an A4 page will emerge in around five seconds.

More impressive, the ISDN system will allow full colour, photographic standard pictures to be sent via the phone. The reception of slow-scan television pictures will also be possible, enabling, for example, companies to look out for

intruders on their property from headquarters.

As with many other areas of telecommunications technology, just how fast businesses will get access to all this depends not on laboratory successes but on the technical standards committees.

Again, as in many areas of telecommunications, Britain's attitude has been one of not waiting around for others to develop standards, but to take the initiative.

British Telecom has been running a pilot service for almost three years, in which customers are linked to what will be the backbone of the UK's fully-fledged ISDN system, the digital System X network, via BT's Integrated Digital Access (IDA).

This gives users a single line digital link from their (most likely) analogue exchange to the System X national network. The line can carry speech and data at the 64 kilobit per second rate characteristic of the ISDN system, plus an 8 kb/s link for data.

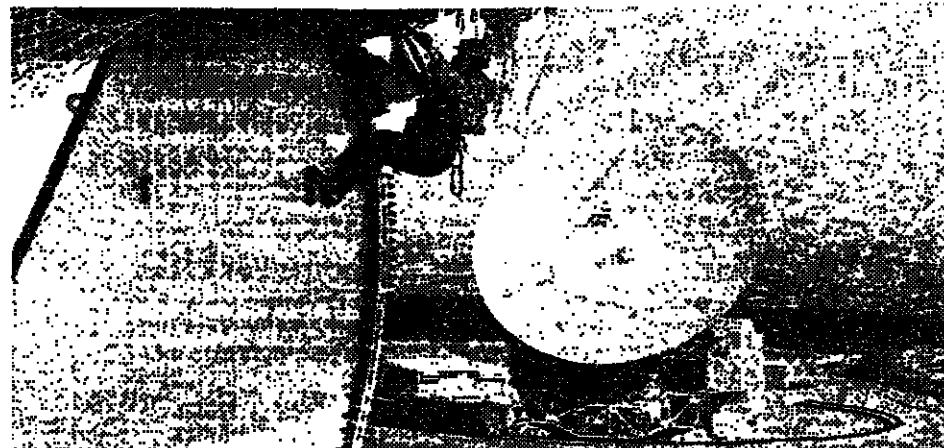
Since the setting up of the pilot project, based on BT's own standard, the International Telephone and Telegraph Consultative Committee (CCITT) standard has arrived at its own method for linking users to the network.

BT has moved on as well, however, and later this year will be introducing a multiline version of IDA, again based on its own standard, which will give access to ISDN capability to those on extensions to switchboards (private branch exchanges, or PBXs).

The equipment based on the new standard will have greater communication capacity (2 megabits/second) and can carry 30 traffic channels.



The new-style coin and credit-card phone kiosks were designed with hand-capped people in mind, and also to counter vandalism. Other advances — public, private and for the home — can be seen at Communications '88 at the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham from May 10 to 13



Keeping the electronic airways open: BT's vital earth station at Goonhilly Downs, Cornwall

Commercial pilot takes off despite turbulence

When British Telecom introduced its Integrated Digital Access (IDA) service in 1985 there was no internationally agreed Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN) standard, so its pilot service does not conform to the standard that was later adopted.

This could create the impression that BT is out of step with the rest of the world. Nevertheless, it enabled both BT and some of its customers to get valuable experience of using digital communications.

Before the end of the year BT will start to provide its ISDN service on a commercial basis. It will, however, not withdraw support to those early users who committed themselves to the 80kbit/s IDA service. It is expected that these forward-thinking organizations will wish to migrate as soon as possible to the agreed standard.

BT is moving ahead rapidly in the modernization of its network. All 53 digital trunk exchanges are operational and, by March 1, 58 per cent of originating trunk traffic was loaded on to the digital trunk network. According to data from the European Conference of Post and Telecommunications (CEPT), all the UK traffic will be carried digitally by 1990, compared with 75, 25 and 36 per cent for France, Germany, and Italy respectively.

This digital infrastructure, together with digital telephone exchanges, is a prerequisite of ISDN. And BT is thrusting

ahead, having announced orders worth more than £100 million for digital exchange equipment in March — the thirteenth in a series placed competitively at approximately quarterly intervals since May, 1984.

The latest generation exchanges are System X from GEC Plessey Telecommunications (GPT) and AXE 10 from Thoma-Ericsson.

However, even though almost half of BT's subscribers will be connected to suitable digital exchanges by 1990, a large proportion of them, and in particular the domestic ones, will not be able to enjoy the advantages of ISDN. This

Benefits for the small firm in high-tech mail

is because the necessary digital terminating equipment will not have been installed on their premises or in the corresponding locations in the telephone exchange.

Thus, these subscribers will still have to use the traditional analogue telephone and will not be able to avail themselves of the "2B+D" Basic Rate Access (BRA, otherwise known as single line access). BRA will provide two 64kbit/s "B" channels for voice or data, plus the 16kbit/s "D" channel for lower speed data.

While the majority of domestic subscribers would have no use for the additional

capacity that this provides, as we move, albeit slowly, into the information age, business subscribers will want to enjoy the benefits of the higher quality and additional facilities that it will support.

For example, even the smallest business will rapidly come to appreciate the convenience of 64kbit/s transmission speed for electronic mail and other computer-related services.

However, the benefits of the transmission speed increase by a factor of six and the improved quality of Group 4 fax machines will probably remain outside the budget of the smaller business user.

While domestic and small business subscribers will use the BRA, connections to PABXs (office mini-switchboards) will use Primary Rate (or multiline) Access. Private networks, where the PABXs at each of a company's sites are interconnected, will be able to take early advantage of the ISDN standard. This is because they will be able to install ISDN-compatible terminal devices in the appropriate positions within their organizations. Consequently, the most sophisticated ISDN terminal is reduced to the lowest common denominator (if it will operate at all), if the receiving end is not suitably equipped.

Adrian J. Morant
European Editor of
Telephone Engineer &
Management



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Keeping a closer link with the HQ

Companies with a widespread operation do their best to minimise the inconvenience and cost of inter-site communications. At the very least they tend to have tie-lines by which phone calls can be made without using the public network.

Features offered by a modern digital PABX include call forwarding, call divert and conference calls. The market leader in the UK is Plessey ISDN which claims around 70 per cent of the business.

A private network built up using these PABXs can support its features across the whole network as well as providing a uniform number plan so that it is not necessary to look up tie-line and site codes before making a call.

Another feature is that the operator position can be placed at any site. While it is normal to have operators at all except the smallest satellite sites, this means that out-of-hours or holiday cover can be provided centrally.

Networks generally consist of the separate PABXs at each site with interconnecting links. Today, with 30 channel digital links and ISDN-compatible PABXs, the network takes the form of a private ISDN so enabling an organization to take advantage of it before ISDN is widely available.

For example, the Royal Bank of Scotland is planning a fully-integrated network of PABXs, based on Philips Sopho-S switches, to cover eight sites in Edinburgh and sites in London, Manchester and Glasgow. The bank therefore needed a networked system in Edinburgh which, in turn could be linked to a company-wide PABX network.

Initially, two switches have been installed at the bank's London office in Islington. The next stage will be two more to cover the Edinburgh offices. The network is being designed to allow the bank to manage it centrally with statistics and diagnostic data gathered at the chosen point. The aim is to provide the RBS with

a reliable and flexible voice communications network.

Allan Brownie, project leader of the bank's Telecomms Planning Department, says: "It will allow us to adopt new services as they become available. Among those we are considering are videoconferencing and simultaneous voice and data."

In fact, it is now possible for a private network to be linked directly to Vodafone. This not only results in an advantageous cellular radio tariff but also provides connection to cellphones as if they are telephone extensions.

No matter how advanced and sophisticated the facilities, frequently the person you are calling will not be available. Eryll Tudor, managing director of Tudor Computing, says that as many as 75 per cent of business calls fail to reach the target recipient first time and, even then, 50 per cent of these calls require only one-way communications.

This is an underlying reason for his company developing its Tudorvox, a voice messaging system which allows users to leave verbal messages at any time on any switchboard. These messages are then accessible from internal extensions on that PABX or externally via the BT network.

Tudorvox is controlled via dual tone multi-frequency (DTMF) tones emitted by most modern exchanges and cellular phones. To access stored messages, users would dial their voice mailbox number and then enter their user-identity and password. The system would then tell them the number of messages waiting and would allow the user to read them in sequence or in reverse order or, if so desired, to skip to the next or previous message.

Another innovative product is the Calbox Personal Telephone Management System, a combined hardware and software package which links a standard telephone with IBM and compatible PCs and integrates their operation.

One of its features is call scheduling whereby up to 25 names can be set with exact times to call, or simply to work through at one's convenience. The user can also carry on with other tasks while Calbox monitors both incoming and outgoing calls.

This is an interesting product that could very well pay for itself in just a month or two in improved efficiency of working. What will definitely pay off is its ability to automatically cost, log and account calls.

AJM



Plessey's central digital PABX "switchboard" has a number of special features that can be in link with remote sites



All in one box: British Telecom's photovideo terminal uses the integrated digital access (IDA) link, which on one connection, provides speech, data, text, facsimile, photographs and graphics; a useful advertising/marketing tool

More fax sending more facts

The number of fax terminals in Britain doubled from 86,000 to 173,000 in 1987, according to British Facsimile Industry Consultative Committee (BFICC), writes Adrian J. Morant. It forecasts sales of 150,000 this year, though British Telecom predicts 180,000.

A lot of this growth is fuelled by the increasing choice of low-cost machines as more companies enter the market. This has de-mystified fax and transformed it from being "that special machine that sits next to the telex near the telephone switchboard". Now it is becoming an everyday tool that anyone can use.

Low-cost machines, such as the Konica K190 using A4 page size and selling at well under £2,000, have resulted in fax becoming a normal means of office communication so that, worldwide, it is overtaking telex.

One result of this is that executives — especially those who are not keyboard orientated — are becoming increasingly aware of the advantages of such machines. These people will be particularly interested in a new portable machine launched by BT which is the size and weight of a portable typewriter.

BT is planning to create a mass market with this machine, costing £995. Caroline Day, manager of BT's facsimile division, says: "We now have a high specification, portable machine at a price that most businesses can afford. It is as valuable for home-based businesses and small

companies as it is for multi-national organizations."

While these low-cost machines are responsible for the rapid numerical growth in the market, it is the sophisticated machines which provide features which lend themselves to a complete office system.

Features include timer transmission which enables an unattended machine to send documents in the evening and so take advantage of cheap phone tariffs; and automatic transmission whereby an unattended machine initiates transmission.

A fax card which allows any make of fax terminal to be connected to an IBM-compatible computer was launched earlier in the year by Interscan

Japanese move towards PC communications

Communications. The approach adopted by Interscan is different from that adopted by other makers of fax cards, mainly the US and Japanese.

The Japanese manufacturers are increasingly moving towards high-performance machines which communicate with PCs via the serial RS232 interfaces. On the other hand, while many of the other fax cards enable a fax to be sent directly to or from a PC, a scanner is necessary to an image from existing hard copy.

Most machines conform to the Group 3 standard whereby an A4 page is transmitted in about 20 seconds. The new Group 4 fax will send a

similar page in around five seconds.

Even though a growing number of large companies are operating their own private digital networks, and thus already have a suitable infrastructure, sales of Group 4 machines will not take off rapidly. This is because, being a specialist machine, there will not be a large number of vendors rushing into the market so prices will remain at a level attractive only where there is a high volume of traffic.

A main application is likely to be for high volume inter-departmental traffic where existing G3 machines are being overloaded.



Mass marketer: BT's Caroline Day

Centrex, a rival to PABX

Centrex is a facility that enables public telephone network operators, such as British Telecom and Mercury, to provide PABX-type facilities to the business user and strengthen its position as a total service provider, so attracting more income, writes Adrian J. Morant. From the customer's point of view, it not only avoids having to install a PABX at a time when the cost of office space is rising, it can provide the necessary facilities to staff who are spread around several buildings.

Centrex has been available in North America for more than 25 years. But it is the advanced services available on digital exchanges that have spurred its growth. The first European Centrex system was launched in March 1987 by Mercury. It was offered as the Mercury 2110 to users connected to the company's London optical-fibre network and is based on a Northern Telecom DMS-100 switch providing an initial 10,000 lines capacity.

British Telecom also bought a switch, in this case from AT&T and Philips Telecommunications, to carry out Centrex trials. BT is reviewing its Centrex strategy and is expected to introduce a service as soon as the facility is available on System X or AXE 10 exchanges. One reason for the delay is that it is recognized that the businesses most likely to benefit from Centrex are the bigger companies. They usually have offices around the country which need to be in communications with one another.

So though Centrex can be expected to be useful for firms with all offices within the service area of one digital exchange or to provide the telecommunications facilities for several companies sharing the same building, the real need is for a far wider spread.

BT, however, also has plans to offer a virtually private network (VPN) product both inland and internationally. VPNs rely on there being adequate capacity in the public network for circuits to be allocated dynamically on demand. The customer organization sites are connected to the public network by high-capacity optical fibres. Then, when customer demand arises, the network configuration and functionality is adjusted to meet those requirements directly from the communications manager's desk.

This is seen as a potential solution to business-networking problems. But BT will offer it only to complement other available solutions if it can be shown to offer network flexibility combined with an appropriate mixture of control, resilience and functionality at a competitive price.

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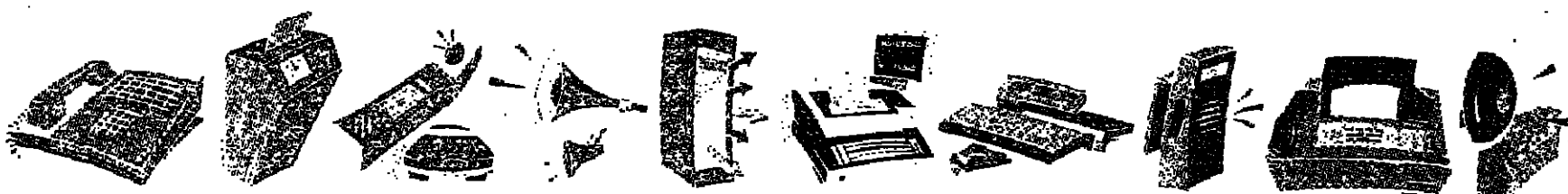
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COMMUNICATIONS/3



Fast growth: Daniel Nabarro of Inter-City Paging says predictions of 1.5 million pagers by 1990 will be exceeded

Battle of the air waves

The growth of cellular radio, particularly car phones, is a success story of the liberalization of UK telecommunications. Vodafone and Cellnet are competing with one another for an increasing share of the monthly service and call charges.

As these amounts, on average, to some £70 a month per subscriber it can be seen how large are the stakes, writes Adrian J. Morant.

Many people may consider the price of using cellular radio too high. Nevertheless, it has spurred many people to take an interest in mobile communications and re-assess their needs.

If cellular does not meet a particular requirement there are many other choices, including paging and private mobile radio.

With prices starting at around £10 a month for a basic pager, communication while away from the office is increasingly affordable.

Even the most advanced message pager from Mercury which can store up to 16 messages totalling around 2,000 characters costs just £34 a month for regional coverage and £56.50 nationwide. Such a unit can be inserted into a printer/charger unit to get a hard copy of the messages.

As in other sectors, British Telecom holds the lion's share of the paging market. It is, however, coming under increasing pressure now that other companies have been licensed to offer national services.

These include long-established ones such as Air Call and new entrants Mercury Paging, the joint venture between Mercury Communications and Motorola; and Racal's Vodapage.

These companies are all rolling out their services as rapidly as possible to cover as much of the country as possible and maintain a competitive edge over each other, and with BT and

other companies which operate in a particular geographic area.

Even here changes are occurring. Inter-City Paging (ICP) offers a premium quality service with 65 per cent of its customers using the more advanced message pagers. At present providing coverage in Greater London and the South East, it will have a complete national service from July as a result of an airtime resale agreement.

While the company's chairman, Daniel Nabarro, often referred to as "Mr Paging", will neither confirm nor deny it, the agreement appears to be with BT, which has national coverage.

Mr Nabarro claims that the predictions of 1.5 million pagers by 1990 will be exceeded. "The explosion predicted for paging is no longer a prediction; it's here. And only the fittest will keep pace to really exploit the opportunities - the biggest pressure point in the industry is with the pager manufacturers."

"ICP plans to double in size by the end of this year and double its subscribers."

Mr Nabarro predicts that, before long, like the progress in telephone usage in the 1950/60s, people will be asking "what's your pager number?" instead of "do you have a pager?"

He pours scorn on paging as a "fashion", citing Mercury's Sensor. "It's attractive, slimline and ornamental but it has failed. Mercury's partner, Motorola, also sold them to BT who have found sales disappointing even with a brushed gold appearance."

He also dismisses the belief that there is a big market for rechargeable pagers. "To have to remember to plug in a pager when on the move is a hassle and is asking for trouble. And, as message pagers are available that run for months at a time on a single AA size battery, who needs a rechargeable unit, anyway?"

Surge in mobile radio

There are more than 400,000 users of private mobile radio (PMR) in the UK. It is the ideal means of maintaining contact between a base station and staff on the move and so is widely used by police, taxi companies and so on.

PMR services have been launched this year based on "trunking" technology which makes much more efficient use of the limited number of available radio channels.

Band Three Radio and GEC National One will both provide national coverage. However, they are adopting a different approach to tariffs. The former has a standard monthly charge irrespective of the usage while the latter makes a separate charge for calls in addition to the monthly rental.

In addition, customers will be able to opt for national or regional coverage.

It is a very competitive business as potential users will be able to choose between these two suppliers or, where only regional coverage is needed, from an operator licensed to run a service in that region.

In about five months of growth, Band Three Radio claims to have more than 3,000 subscribers with another

Subscriber rate is at 10,000 a year

200 being introduced every week. This is a rate of 10,000 a year - more than double the rate of increase of subscribers a year ago before the introduction of the new services.

As the service area rolls out to cover more of the country than the present 60 per cent of the population, this growth rate could well accelerate.

Users will range from British Rail, which has just placed an order via Philips Telecom, to equip 500 of its mainline trains, to country veterinary practices which have vets on the move and away from the surgery.

Band Three has also just carried out trials of text transmission over its network. Using a small terminal consisting of combined keyboard and printer which plugs directly into existing radio converting them into a combined voice and data communications. It is able to transmit text at around 30 characters a second.

Being simple to operate, it will lend itself to service-type applications where, for example, a service department wants to give a mobile mechanic details of his next call in a simple, accurate manner. **AJM**



Wider choice for the users

The surfeit of choice available in mobile communications has, if anything, complicated rather than simplified decision making, writes Adrian J. Morant.

Thus firms such as Martin Daves Communications, offering one-stop shopping, are meeting a market need. By offering a specialist service in business communications, including facsimile machines, MDC is able to demonstrate the wide range of choice to prospective users.

MDC was set up in 1985 and has been growing steadily with 300 staff around the UK.

Another company, Europa, which had 21 employees less than a year ago, now has 100 operating out of its headquarters at Richmond, Surrey, and is aiming to set up a chain of 60 large outlets targeting the business sector, plus some 300 franchises around the country.

Such an aggressive plan can only succeed in buoyant market conditions. However, one can only wait and see whether it will be able to provide the required quality of service.

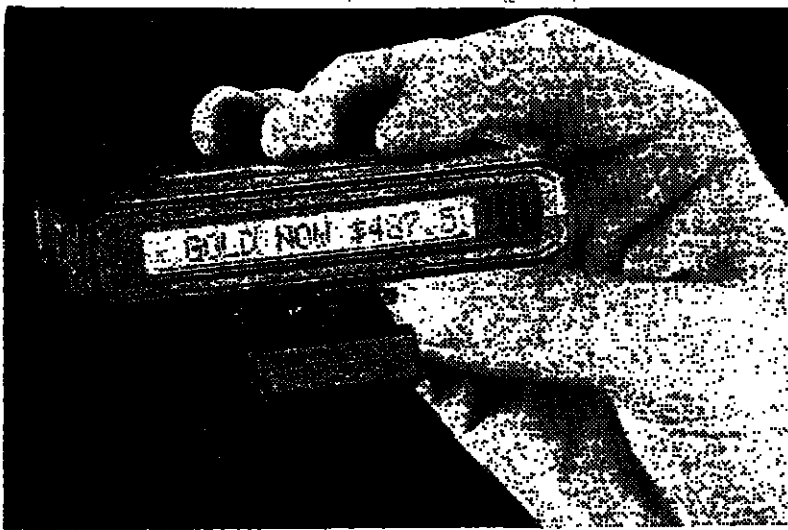
In addition to these established services, the end of the year is scheduled to see the launch of the first CT2 (cordless telephone, second generation) service. These are digital portable telephones which can be used either to make or receive calls in the home or office using a private base station or, alternatively, to make calls via a subscriber base station in a public place.

One such unit, the Ferranti Zonephone, will operate up to 200 metres from either type of base station.

Ferranti Creditphone, which has just received site-specific approval from the Office of Telecommunications (OfTel) to carry out trials of its CT2 system, is planning to introduce its service within the M25 motorway ring, followed by a phased introduction of the service to additional major travel routes, including motorway service areas, and conurbations throughout the UK.

The speed of starting the service is dictated by pressures from competitors and customer service take-up.

Ferranti's Zonephone, above, and in use, top, will operate up to 200 metres from a private or public base station



Keeping in touch: Inter-City's Auto-Message Plus screens the information

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GEC PLESSEY TELECOMMUNICATIONS **GPT** LINKING UP TO LINK THE WORLD

Payphone rivals

Most of us have suffered the frustration of finding a public phone box out of order, vandalized or otherwise. British Telecom has been criticized over its payphone service and has striven to improve it. So much so that Professor Bryan Carsberg, director-general of the communications watchdog, Ofcom, has congratulated BT on achieving its callbox availability target.

However, last week Ofcom also abolished BT's monopoly of the supply of payphones. The decision is likely to greatly increase the number of private payphones in pubs, hotels, shops, garages and other outlets.

The Ofcom announcement was quickly followed by a statement from an independent equipment supplier that it was entering the market.

Southwestern Bell Telecom UK, a subsidiary of one of the Regional Bell Operating Companies in the US, said that, having already launched its first telephone for the UK market, it is planning a further 13 products for homes and businesses during the year. One of these will be a private

payphone for hotels and so on, selling at £215 plus VAT. — about the present annual rental of a basic payphone.

Plessey Telecoms Division is also known to be interested in supplying and selling payphones. As a main producer of "intelligent" payphone systems it has built up a good export business in Europe, the US, Australasia and the Far East.

Bernard Brooks, the company's director of marketing and planning, says: "Payphones are changing their image and will progressively extend the communications services of people away from their base."

"Intelligent" payphones can report on their service and usage, and faults can be reported automatically to a central management system as they occur, together with an indication of the problem. All events can be logged to enable an immediate response, and for analysis reports.

The position of BT as the sole supplier of public payphones will be changed as Mercury starts providing callboxes. Initially, it will install them in high-usage areas such

as railway stations, hotels and busy shopping centres.

Other companies are waiting to join in if Ofcom licenses a third operator in 1990, when the present duopoly situation comes up for review.

A new company, International Payphones, has been formed as a joint venture between International Information Technology of St Ives, Cambridgeshire, a designer and manufacturer of advanced business telephones, and Pacific Pay Telephone, Company of Van Nuys, California, which plans to install 29,000 public kiosks and 45,000 private payphones over the next five years.

As an independent operator, IPL will be able to use whichever network offers the least-cost routes. It plans to launch its service from Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, where it has been working with the town's development corporation.

Barry Laine, the company's chairman, says BT's argument that it is making a loss on payphones and blaming vandalism for that and the bad service is wearing thin.

Bouncing ideas in the sky

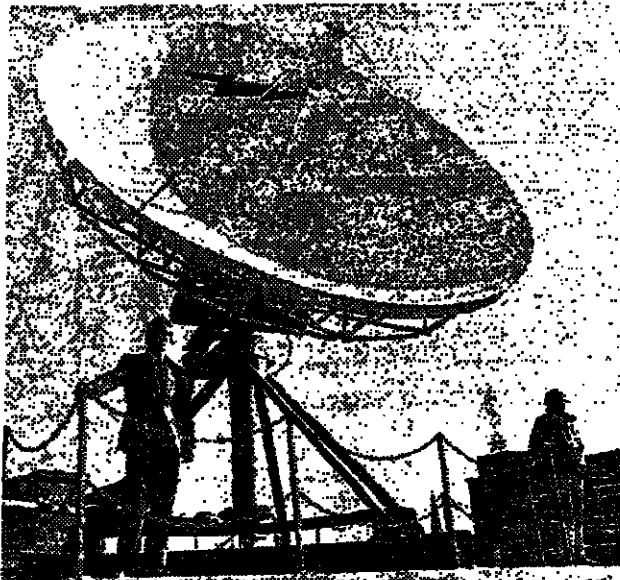
When Olympus, the European Space Agency's satellite, is launched early next year Plymouth Polytechnic will use it to beam training programmes to business and industry in the remotest parts of the South West.

It also plans to use the link to send experimental programmes, some made by Devon schools, to schools across Europe.

The polytechnic, an acknowledged leader in communications engineering, has won the first licence granted to anyone other than British Telecom or Mercury to broadcast via satellites.

A lot of the techniques involved have been developed at Plymouth by Professor Martin Tomlinson, head of the Department of Communications Engineering.

The polytechnic is working closely with the Manpower Services Commission to get Treasury backing for an educational updating service aimed at industry, commerce. The idea is to bounce



Looking into the future: John Bull, left, and John Bramwell with the Plymouth Polytechnic satellite dish used by schools

update programmes off the satellite to users throughout the South West, initially through further education colleges. The polytechnic is exploring the possibility of three types of programme.

The first would keep engineers and designers updated on information technology. The second would update programmes in subjects such as health, pharmacy and agriculture and be intended primarily for trainees, already

in work, who cannot travel long distances to courses.

The third would be aimed particularly at small businesses, the basic format being studio-based demonstrations and discussions, including video material shot on location in industry, backed up by audio-conferencing links so that people in different locations could take part.

The polytechnic already has extensive experience in audio-conferencing techniques through the Plymouth Audio Conferencing Network (PAC-net) system, which was used to link business and tutors in their homes.

John Bull, the polytechnic's deputy director, says: "We used it for example, to link in students who were on social work placements around the country. It would have been very expensive for tutors to visit them for seminars."

Mr Bull thinks that outreach systems which combine audio-conferencing techniques with satellite television have enormous potential. "For instance, there are a lot of legal firms scattered around

the South West and one of the problems is how to keep small practices updated."

Another experiment which the polytechnic is considering involves using Olympus to provide training programmes for big organizations such as multi-national companies or large retail chains.

The initial intention of the schools programme is to strengthen ties between British and West European children, "like an extension of the penpal scheme," says Ivan Sidgreaves, the polytechnic's resources learning specialist.

Nine schools have been given satellite dishes to receive foreign language broadcasts. The long-term aim is that they will prepare programmes to be broadcast on the satellite.

Mr Bull believes that eventually educationalists could produce transnational material which might be used more directly for teaching and learning. Discussions are already taking place with the relevant authorities in Germany, France and Spain.

Malcolm Brown

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E-mail finds a way of working together

Telex is still the most widely used text-messaging service despite being based on old technology. This is essentially due to telex messages being acceptable as legal documents and also to the compatibility of the two million or so terminals around the world, writes Adrian J. Moran. This figure is also roughly the number of the world's electronic mail boxes. Unfortunately, many of these are distributed around incompatible systems.

When used on systems that employ error-correction to ensure that messages are received accurately and without corruption, electronic mail (E-mail) can be expected to grow even more rapidly. This situation is in the process of being resolved as a growing number of E-mail companies begin to offer X.400 services. The X.400 message-handling system protocol is an international agreed standard.

It will permit the electronic exchange of messages among systems made by different manufacturers, these messages having been sent over the public networks. British Telecom is one of the administrations supporting this initiative. Telecom Gold, the UK licensee of the Dialcom E-mail system, will be offering it. It will enable an existing Telecom Gold user to send a message to an incompatible E-mail system, so long as that system also offers X.400 compatibility.

The proliferation of microcomputers is giving rise to a growing number of potential E-mail users. However, even though the proportion of systems which are equipped with modems in this country falls far short of that in the US.

Where it is intended to use X.400 on wide area networks, it would be ideal if the same standard could be used on a local area network

within the organization. To meet this requirement, the BT Research Laboratories at Martlesham has developed what is claimed to be the first X.400 messaging application for PC LANs. It operates under Novell's Netware, one of the well-known and widely used LAN systems. Designated the PC400, it also gives users access to X.400-related public messaging services so that users can have end-to-end X.400 operability from PC to a terminal which could well be situated in another country.

Though it is advantageous to abide by international standards if one is aiming to communicate with others, there may be overriding advantages to use proprietary standards when building a private network. For example, one of the world's largest accountancy firms, Peat Marwick Mitchell, has begun the task of integrating all its activities in Europe by establishing a major computer network, based on Wang VS 32-bit minis and the Wang OFFICE software suite.

The start of the system was a LAN within the firm's Brussels headquarters linking 15 Wang terminals, 10 Wang PCs, one IBM PC and a Macintosh to the Wang Vs in an international electronic mailing system. Rapid expansion of this to offices across Europe has been achieved with communications to the local PTT over X.25 protocol (packet switched) leased lines. Further links, also under the control of Wang OFFICE, are via Dialcom to provide communications with FMM's North American offices.

Thus, it can be seen that where the efficient operation, and maybe the survival, of the prime business is based on one system, it would have been far more risky to implement changes to, say, X.400.



Keep on typing: dumper-truck driver checks his next assignment using a mobile data-processing system

Dialling anew for '92

Telecommunications is one of the vital planks on which the European Commission is basing its strategy of a single market by 1992. The commission is planning a liberalization programme that should by 1992 bring tariffs of all telephone companies into line with costs.

This seems to imply uniform charges in all community countries. But the various countries can achieve differing levels of economies of scale. West Germany, France and Britain, for example, are, in telecommunications terms, about the same size, each having more than 20 million phones, of respectively, 42.46, 41.25 and 38.29 telephones per 100 population.

Though these countries can achieve roughly the same economies of scale, others in the EEC are smaller, Ireland, with about 700,000 phones — fewer than 20 per 100 population — is not able to achieve the same economic benefits. This is recognized by the commission which, while legislating for liberalization from 1989 in the types of services used by business, is not demanding liberalization of the basic phone service.

The EEC Star programme aims to provide equal access to telecommunications across urban and rural sectors, which will be particularly expensive to achieve in remote regions.

The cost-effective introduction of innovative services demands large numbers of users and rapid take-up. So there will be incentives for the big phone companies to spread outside their own national territory.

It augurs well for the consumer but the possibility is that in these moves towards free competition, some new services, offering a market which will be more open than the current one, will be hard to sell. So even with the general degree of overseeing by regulatory bodies, where a market becomes more open there is a corresponding increased risk for the user so that the old adage applies: caveat emptor.

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☐ OVER ONE HUNDRED ☐ OTHER

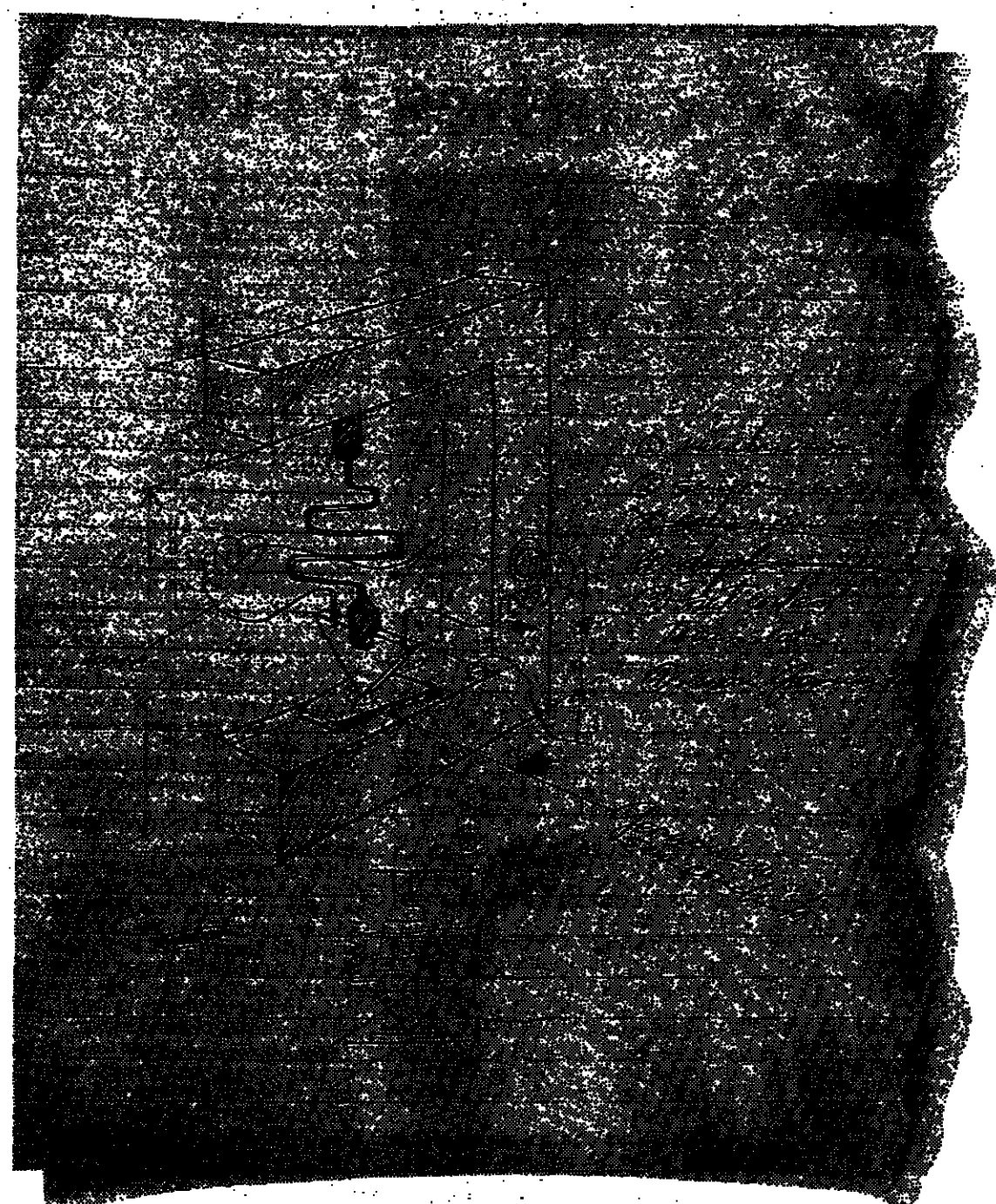
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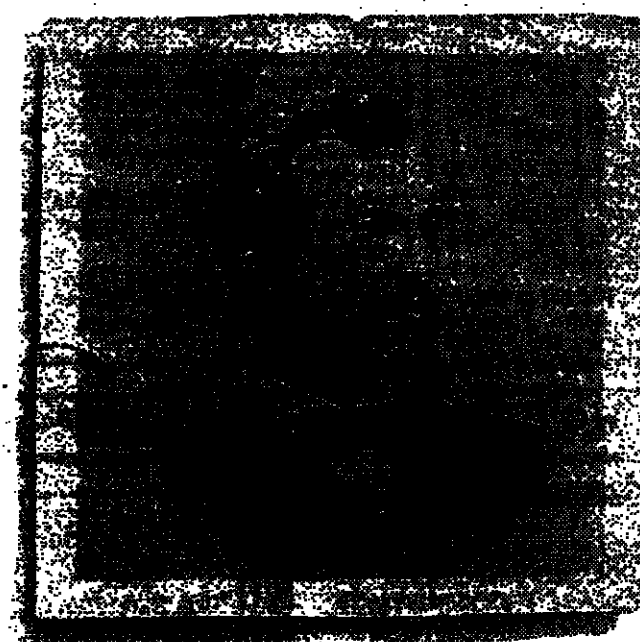
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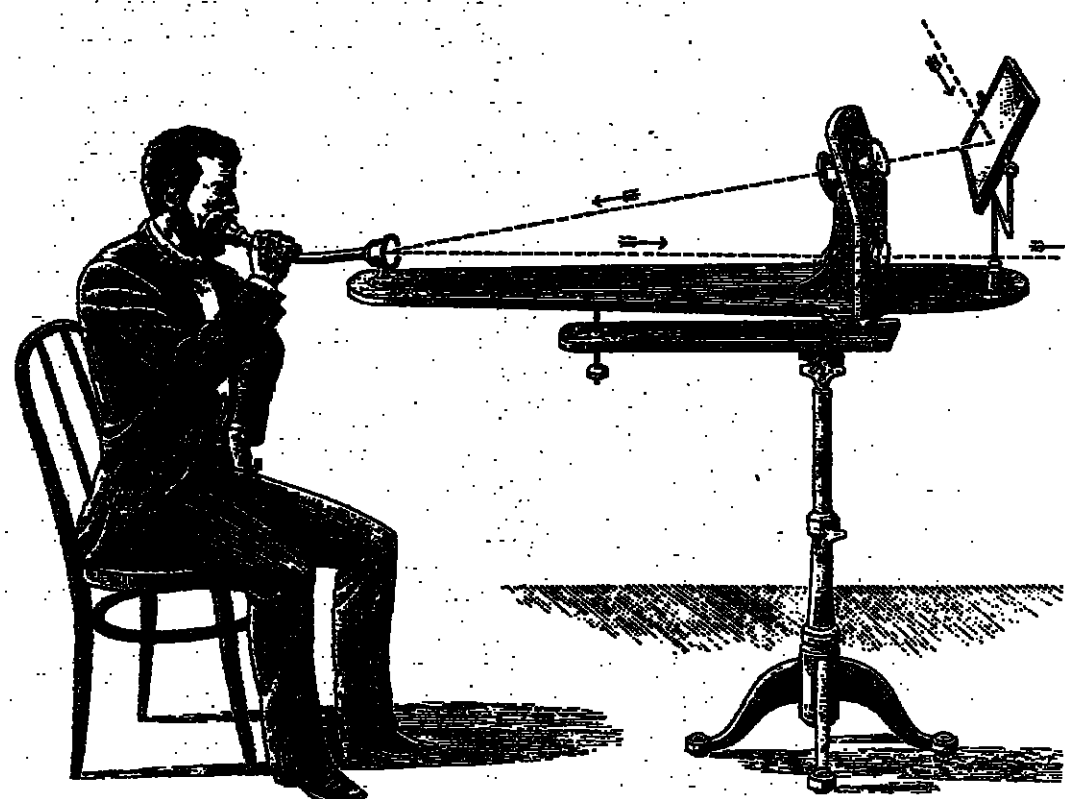
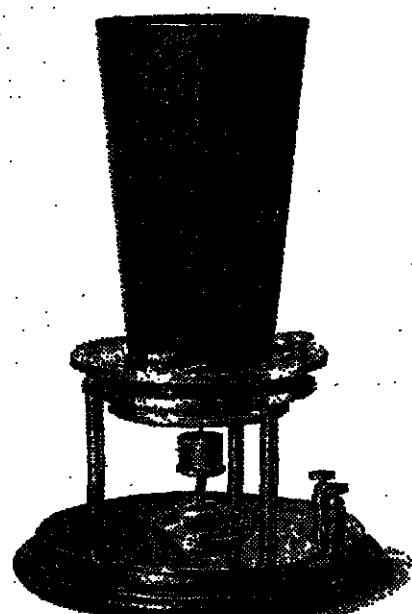
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THE DISCOVERY OF THE TRANSISTOR EFFECT AT AT&T BELL LABORATORIES IN 1947 CHANGED THE COURSE OF HISTORY. SUDDENLY MINIATURISATION WAS POSSIBLE AND THE AGE OF ELECTRONICS HAD BEGUN. IN THIS FIRST TRANSISTOR THE CONTACTS WERE MADE OF GOLD AND THE SEMICONDUCTOR WAS GERMANIUM.



MARCH 10TH, 1876. ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL UTTERS THE FIRST ARTICULATE SENTENCE EVER TRANSMITTED OVER HIS NEW INVENTION, THE LIQUID PHONE. "MR. WATSON, COME HERE. I WANT YOU." AND THUS THE FIRST AT&T PATENT IS EARNED.



THE PRECURSOR OF FIBRE OPTICS FIRST SAW THE LIGHT IN 1880 WHEN ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL WROTE OF HIS EXPERIMENTS WITH THE "PHOTOPHONE": "I HAVE HEARD A RAY OF THE SUN LAUGH, COUGH AND SING."



SCIENTISTS AT AT&T BELL LABORATORIES INVENTED THE FIRST ELECTRICAL DIGITAL COMPUTER IN 1939. ALMOST 50 YEARS LATER, THE 6386 MICROCOMPUTER IS ABLE TO SUPPORT AS MANY AS 32 USERS SIMULTANEOUSLY. A CONTEMPORARY COMPUTER INDUSTRY BREAKTHROUGH.

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A few years and thousands of telephone poles later, the people of Los Angeles were able to talk directly to the people of Boston. The nascent AT&T was on the move.

In April 1927, a handful of New Yorkers glimpsed the future. AT&T Bell Laboratories, now the inheritors of Alexander Graham Bell's inventor's mantle, had developed a way to carry the first television image over telephone lines.

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1947 saw a major breakthrough with three of our scientists inventing the transistor.

At the same time of course, they had no idea that this was the beginning of the microelectronics revolution. Each was later awarded the Nobel Prize.

In 1956, AT&T and its partners laid the first transatlantic telephone cable, enabling the people of Britain to talk to the people of America.

The world's first satellite TV transmission was made possible in 1962 thanks to AT&T's Telstar satellite.

And one of the first stations to receive Telstar's messages was built at Goonhilly that same year.

The Unix® operating system was developed by AT&T in 1969 and has subsequently become an international computer operating standard.

The story continues in a similar vein until today. In fact, AT&T have earned a patent every working day for more than 60 years, most of which have contributed to improving the world's communication.

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Today, AT&T has co-operative ventures with over 100 nations. We've been working with British Telecom, and its predecessors, for over 60 years.

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Scottish rider finishes first and second at the Badminton horse trials

Sir Wattie's final round doubles Stark's triumph

By Jenny MacArthur

Ian Stark, the world and European team gold medal winner, yesterday became the first rider to finish first and second at the Badminton horse trials in the 40 years of the event.

The Scotsman, aged 34, completed a clear round in the show jumping on Sir Wattie to win the Whitbread Trophy for the second, consecutive time. He had already secured second place on Glenburnie, a younger horse who was competing at Badminton for the first time. Both horses are owned by the Edinburgh Woolen Mill, which received £11,000 in prize-money.

Virginia Leng, the world champion, finished third on Master Craftsman, who is only eight. Leng competed yesterday with a sprained ankle sustained in a fall from Murphy Himself on Saturday. Despite this handicap she incurred just one time fault and Master Craftsman looks likely to be her Olympic ride.

Stark refused to be drawn on which horse he would like to ride at Badminton but said: "I feel a traitor to Sir Wattie but I do love Glenburnie — this was his first big outing since Burghley

in 1986 and he gave me a terrific feel."

Before the show jumping yesterday, the big grey gelding, who was lying second to Sir Wattie after the cross-country, had one fence in hand over Leng. There was an anxious moment when he used up that advantage by knocking a brick out of the wall but he completed the rest of the course without fault.

Stark had shown his instinctive horsemanship on Saturday when surviving a near fall at the fence into the lake, after Sir Wattie put in an extra stride between the two elements. Stark let go of the reins and both hands shot into the air but his own perfect balance enabled Sir Wattie to recover.

The only other rider to go clear inside the time on two horses was Tinks Pottinger, of New Zealand, who underlined the great that she will present to British riders in Seoul. Pottinger, lying fifth on Volunteer after the cross-country, moved up one place when Karen Straker and Get Smart had one fence down.

Straker, a former European junior champion, completed three days of superb competition with the gelding and

must now be a contender for the Olympic short-list to be announced next week. So, too, must Lorna Clarke, who finished tenth on Fearlath Mor after one of the most impressive performances in Saturday's cross-country.

Fears that Col Frank Weldon, the course designer, had built too severe a course proved unfounded, at least as far as the results are concerned. Only 10 out of the 51 who started the cross-country failed to finish, there were 18 clear rounds and six horses were clear within the time (Stark, Pottinger, Clarke and Rodney Powell on Special Appointment).

But as an Olympic selection trial the results were less satisfactory, with only Stark and Leng looking certain. The falls of Rachel Hunt from Aloaf at the Normandy bank are likely to be overlooked by the selectors because she otherwise completed a faultless round and finished seventh on the Friday Fox. BADMINTON: Whitbread Trophy results: 1. Sir Wattie (I Stark), 40.2; 2. Glenburnie (I Stark), 57.4; 3. Master Craftsman (V Leng), 62.4; 4. Volunteer (T Pottinger), 65.8; 5. Get Smart (K Straker), 68.4; 6. Barnabus Brown (P Leng), 68.6; 7. Friday Fox (R Hunt), 75.2; 8. Special Appointment (R Powell), 76.4; 9. Horton Rose (R Clarke), 77.2; 10. Fearlath Mor (L Clarke), 82.4.



High rider: Stark and Glenburnie take off at Badminton (Photograph: Hugh Routledge)

The fall and rise of one of Our Brave Girls

That crucial second phase of the Badminton horse trials is not just about horrid, threatening fences. The competitors also spend more than an hour on the roads and tracks section. It is a fine time for thinking things over, running through the cross-country fences in your mind, and, perhaps, throwing up a little as well.

I asked Lorna Clarke (who finished tenth, her eighteenth Badminton completion) if riders spent the roads and tracks imagining they had suddenly developed acute peritonitis. "Oh, it's not as bad as that," she said airily. Then after a moment, she added: "Bloody nearly as bad, though... but on the other hand, if someone came up to you and said: 'I'm sorry, the cross-country section has been cancelled' — you'd be so disappointed."

In short, a competitor would go through fire to compete — which brings us to Ginny Leng. In fact, she didn't go through fire, she went through ice. For an ankle sprain, there is, of course, nothing better: frozen peas are ever the athlete's friend in times of trouble; tape them to the hurt and think about tomorrow.



Simon Barnes

Ginny has crocked herself pretty badly. Her wonderful, big, bold horse, Murphy Himself, had been boldness itself at the fateful jump on the cross-country course — that was the trouble. He decided the fearsome St-Jump was a bounce — two jumps in succession, the second of which is taken on the landing stride.

But this was not the rider's idea at all, and his extraordinary, utterly unexpected flying leap saw his rider exit via the side-door — and turn her ankle violently on landing. Ginny had no idea if she would be able to ride in the final section of these Whitbread championships when it came to the show jumping phase yesterday. But those who knew her would have bet 100-1 on that she would be jumping.

She got on her second horse, Master Craftsman, with a wince disguised as a smile. She wore a beautiful black riding boot on her right leg,

and a scruffy brown ankle boot and a horse bandage on her left. She tried one practice fence to test the ankle. She decided it would do.

Do it did. A clear round, third place, and her sights now clearly set on the Olympics. "Oh, he tried, didn't he try?" she said. "He looked after me, he did everything — I wasn't much help, was I?"

It was a stunning performance — but I am not going to go on too much about Our Brave Girls. All athletes are like that, all the ones that are any good, anyway. The only way Ginny wasn't going to compete would be if she had been locked up. Hard to believe, I know, but all that peritonitis-bringing agony of risk and competition is still the breath of life to athletes. To them, a sore ankle is nothing. I doubt there was a single rider at Badminton who would not have done the same thing.

An admirer approached afterwards: "Ginny! So brave!"

"Oh shut up," Ginny replied. An inimitable lot, these athletes. And Ginny was able to walk away all right. All she needed was a crutch.

Players in set-to with spectators

By Keith Macklin

Disgraceful crowd scenes at Widnes and brawls on the pitch disgraced yesterday's Stones Bitter premiership semi-final in which Widnes, the champions, qualified to meet the John Player Trophy winners, St Helens, in next Sunday's final at Old Trafford.

The game at St Helens, where the Saints beat Bradford Northern 24-10, was also an ugly affair, with players more intent on settling scores than in playing good football. Widnes beat Warrington at Naughton Park by 20-10 after trailing 10-0. Woods scoring an excellent try and kicking three goals. But Widnes fought back. Thackray and Currier racing away for tries and Platt kicking two goals. The decider came when a strong burst by Thackray gave David Hulme a try which Platt converted.

However, the game will not be remembered for the quality of the rugby. First, the players became involved in fights, and then there was a pitch invasion. Supporters battled with one another and players went into the crowd and became involved in the brawling.

Police are to study the videotape of an incident in which a player is alleged to have struck a spectator.

At St Helens, the match was littered with penalty kicks as feuds developed. Platt and Groves went over for the Saints, and McGowan for Northern. Loughlin kicked seven goals for St Helens and Hobbs three for Bradford.

STONES BITTER PREMIERSHIP: Semi-final: St Helens 24, Bradford 10; Widnes 20, Warrington 10. Second division: Semi-final: Featherstone 20, Wakefield 16; Oldham 18, Springfield 10.

Their winning margin over the works Mercedes of Schlusser and Mass at the end of the 210-lap race was 35 seconds. The Jaguar pair have won the last three world championships events.

There was disappointment for the second Jaguar. After running in third place for most of the second half of the race, Johnny Dumfries ran out of fuel six laps from the end. This misfortune promoted the second Mercedes of Weaver and Baldi into third place and gave the privately entered Richard Lloyd Porsche of Derek Bell and Tiff Needell an unexpected fourth.

Cheever's third win in succession at Silverstone has increased Jaguar's lead at the top of the table to 15 points. The team feel that they have found the measure of the Germans. "It was exactly what we wanted before we go to Le Mans," Brundle said.

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Sabatini weathers unexpected battle

From Barry Wood, Rome

Gabriela Sabatini dug deep into her resources to overcome a gritty performance from Helen Kelesi to win the Italian Open tennis tournament 6-1, 6-7, 6-1 in two hours 30 minutes yesterday.

The match may have lacked a little of the fire that both players so often generate, a consequence perhaps of the sweltering Roman afternoon, but the drama and tension so befitting the Foro Italico was still much in evidence as Kelesi refused to bend to her more favoured opponent. The Canadian lost the first five games to transform the second set into a thrilling contest.

Kelesi led 2-1 and held three break points, but three aces rescued Sabatini. Kelesi then broke for 4-2, only to be broken back at love, and she threw away another opportunity in the next game as she led 4-0 on Sabatini's serve only to see her lead slip again.

McEnroe's entry for Queen's unconfirmed

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent

Clive Bernstein, the tournament director, said yesterday that John McEnroe had not yet applied to compete in the Stella Artois championships, to be played at Queen's Club from June 6 to 12.

McEnroe is still high enough in the rankings to have been granted a place in the draw had he entered, but he had not done so. The remaining possibility is that McEnroe, three times the Wimbledon champion, could ask for one of the five wildcard places: vacancies to be filled at the tournament committee's discretion. Two of those vacancies have already been allocated to British players.

In 1985, while McEnroe was practising at Queen's Club during the Wimbledon championships, his language offended some women members — including the wife of a former club chairman — when he claimed the court which they had booked. Consequently the club insisted on McEnroe's resignation from honorary membership.

Budd man pulls out

Ron Goodman, aged 75, a vice-president of the Amateur Athletic Association, has withdrawn from the committee of inquiry considering Zola Budd's future. "I realized that at my age I should not be engaging in this sort of activity," he said yesterday. "It needs someone younger and more involved in the mainstream of athletics today."

He has been replaced by David Littlewood, the association's rules revision secretary.

Tjela revenge

Ernest Tjela, of Lesotho, banned from recent marathons in Los Angeles, Boston and Hamburg because of his South African connections, turned up in Munich yesterday and won the marathon there in 2hr 12min 55sec. He was blacklisted after banking the £25,000 he earned by winning the Columbus marathon last November in a trust fund in South Africa, where he works.

Coming good

Matthew Smith, who failed an aptitude test three times before being admitted to his club, won the boy's section of the Thames Television junior gymnast of the year competition at Alexandra Palace on Saturday. Laura Timmins, the favourite, took the girl's title decisively by winning three of the four exercises.

Pallister likely to put play-offs before England

By Louise Taylor

Middlesbrough's embroilment in the play-offs is likely to have a disruptive effect on England's preparations for the European championship.

With Butcher finally losing his battle to regain fitness, the England manager, Bobby Robson, had been intending to take a long, hard look at Pallister, the Middlesbrough central defender, by including him in his squads for the matches with Scotland on May 21, against Colombia three days later, and in Switzerland on May 28. But if the Teesside team qualify for the final of the play-offs, Pallister is unlikely to be released for internationals.

"The play-off involvement has come at a bad time for the boy," Robson said last night. "I will be talking to the Middlesbrough manager, Bruce Rioch, about the situation but I wouldn't expect them to release Pallister while they are in the play-offs because he would be crucial to their chances."

Dorigo is in a similar predicament. With Pearce, of Nottingham Forest, ruled out of the England reckoning by knee trouble, the Chelsea full back was expected to be used as cover for Sansom at left-back but now his chances are in similar jeopardy.

Dorigo's only consolation is that Chelsea are the book-makers' favourites to win the play-offs (2-1 William Hill) but club officials and police could have done without the crowd control problems inherent in high-octane play-off encounters.

Cup places at stake

As Liverpool tonight attempt to set a first division points record in their final League match of the season at home to Luton Town, several of their players will be competing for their places in the FA Cup Final against Wimbledon on Saturday (Ian Ross writes).

Molby and Whelan, recently injured, were introduced at Sheffield Wednesday on Saturday; now 16 contenders are vying for places. A victory will see Liverpool reach 92 points, surpassing the present record of 90, set by Everton.

Wimbledon, too, are dependent on a match tonight, away to Manchester United, to determine their line-up. Thorn stands down so that Gayle and Young may be judged to decide which of them should partner Thorn in central defence.

Veterans provide the inspiration

By Alan Lee, Cricket Correspondent

ARUNDEL (West Indians won toss): The West Indians beat Lavinia, Duchess of Norfolk's XI by 66 runs. In the course of a sunlit weekend in Sussex, two enduring West Indian heroes have mocked the very idea that their dominant days may be past. On Saturday, Viv Richards rescued his young team from a tangle with a masterful century, yesterday it was the turn of Malcolm Marshall to give a chilling reminder in the festival atmosphere of Arundel.

Marshall, so often the scourge of English batsmen, yet now hampered by nagging injuries and threatened by a squad of young pretenders, has speed, skills and enthusiasm are unimpaired by the recent passing of his thirtieth birthday.

Marshall, bowling second change, took three wickets in 10 balls without conceding a run. His victims, it is true, had a combined age of 126 and retired last year from the English first-class game, but as their names were Amis, Radley and Rice, their professional exit was hardly an encouraging sight for Peter May, England's chairman of selectors.

May was among a crowd of 8,000 and if he learned anything in between the traditional Arundel duties of drinking tea and drawing the raffle, it was surely that rumours of the West Indies' decline have been exaggerated.

Roebuck refutes clash after Botham dismissal

By Richard Streeton

An apparent clash between Ian Botham and Peter Roebuck during the Refuge Assurance League match at Taunton yesterday was refuted by Roebuck, the Somerset captain.

To most onlookers it seemed that Botham said something after he took a low right-handed return catch to dismiss Roebuck. Their antipathy was fuelled when Botham left Somerset for Worcestershire in 1986 in the wake of the dismissals of Viv Richards and Joel Garner.

Roebuck was already walking off when he turned round, took a couple of steps towards Botham, wagged his bat at him and said something before continuing to the pavilion. Botham missed the reaction from Roebuck. By then he had his back to Roebuck and was acknowledging the roar of the crowd. The supporters at Somerset, who still support Botham, were gratified by a seven-wicket victory for Worcestershire.

Roebuck said: "It was all very noisy and I could not hear anything." Asked why he turned round, Roebuck said: "I was looking to see if he had caught it. It was a great catch. I felt like congratulating him."

Roebuck was then asked why he had wagged his bat at Botham and said: "I said I should have hit it harder."

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Big Cat leaps further ahead

By Andrew Longmore

In their final world championship race before Le Mans next month, Eddie Cheever and Martin Brundle maintained Jaguar's recent domination over Mercedes with a hard-earned victory in the Autosport 1,000 kilometres at Silverstone yesterday.

Their winning margin over the works Mercedes of Schlusser and Mass at the end of the 210-lap race was 35 seconds. The Jaguar pair have won the last three world championships events.

There was disappointment for the second Jaguar. After running in third place for most of the second half of the race, Johnny Dumfries ran out of fuel six laps from the end. This misfortune promoted the second Mercedes of Weaver and Baldi into third place and gave the privately entered Richard Lloyd Porsche of Derek Bell and Tiff Needell an unexpected fourth.

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